

Terminated PSS chief sues

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

he former education commissioner, Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero, is suing the Board of Education and its

Deleon Guerrero

members for terminating her last October. She alleges that her termination was in retaliation

>> Says firing was retaliation for refusing unlawful transfer of \$175K, among others

counsel Brien Sers Nicholas,

after she questioned the board's micromanagement and for her refusal to request for an unlawful transfer of \$175,000 of PSS funds to the board's account.

Deleon Guerrero, through nation and breach of contract. In suing BOE chair Ma-

The newly implemented salary increases at the Public School System has Sen. Paul

By ERWIN ENCINARES

the increases between teachers and administrative staff.

Manglona, who has been nudging other senators to require the CNMI government to meet its obligation to alis suing BOE before the Superior Court for wrongful termi
See PSS on Page 4

Mangloña (Ind-Rota) questioning an alleged disparity in See MANGLONA on Page 4 introduced that would revert the Commonwealth Health-

Bill to revert CHC back to former status in the works

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Three Saipan cadets of the Department of

Fire and Emergency Medical Services tested

positive for marijuana use, while two of the

island's personnel refused the mandatory drug

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA kimberly bautista@saipantribune.com

3 Fire cadets test positive for pot

A piece of legislation has been

care Corp. back into a line department, according to an interview with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres vesterday

See CADETS on Page 4

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

He declined to comment on See BILL on Page 4



Mangloña questions alleged PSS pay gap

INSIDE

LOCAL

Japan's Marine Diving magazine returned to the Marianas this month.



WORLD

Pope Francis wraps up his Chile visit by meeting with immigrants.

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LIFE & STYLE American comedian

Will Ferrell is at the Australian Open to score laughs.

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2 FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local

Kilili: E-NAP making good use of Farm Bill funds

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) thinks the CNMI is making good use of the \$32.5 million he put into the Agricultural Act of 2014 to make more families eligible and raise food stamp benefits.

"The Department of Agriculture [says] we are now helping 2,736 households NAP" system.

apply online.

"About \$1.75 million of my Farm Bill money is being used for the automated system," Sablan said. "And then once that

system is operational, another \$1.5 million of the Farm Bill funds will pay for the Electronic Benefit System, EBT.

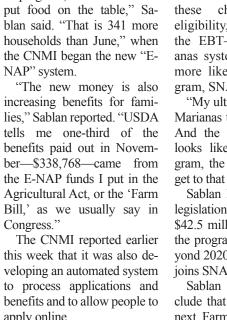
"EBT will end the paper food stamps and give recipients a debit card to swipe at check-out. That makes life easier for the retailers and the E-NAP families. It also cuts down on fraud.

"Most importantly, all of these changes—increasing eligibility, raising benefits, the EBT—make the Marianas system look more and more like the national program, SNAP.

"My ultimate goal is for the Marianas to be part of SNAP. And the more our program looks like the national program, the easier it will be to get to that goal."

Sablan has also introduced legislation to put another \$42.5 million into E-NAP, so the program can continue beyond 2020, or until the CNMI joins SNAP.

Sablan is working to include that legislation into the next Farm Bill, which could be enacted this year. He included the extra funding on his legislative priorities list for



2018. **(PR)**







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7th cycle is Customs academy's biggest graduating class

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

A total of 21 cadets were officially sworn in during the Division of Customs Services 7th cycle academy graduation ceremony yesterday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

According to Customs director Jose Mafnas, many may think that joining the academy is easy but not everyone who enters makes it to graduation.

He said the fact that the original 7th cycle class finished the course together makes him, as an instructor, proud.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who was present at the ceremony, said it was the biggest graduating class in the history of the Division of Customs Services.

He said that Customs Ser-

frontline of defense and it is extremely important that the officers are passionate about their roles to ensure safety for the entire CNMI.

"Like I emphasized, they are the front of our border so the more they are vigilant and aggressive in finding drugs or contraband, the easier it is for our officers on the streets...the easier it is for our community," said Torres. "I congratulate those who are participating and have graduated here today in the field of custom officers. It's a big deal for us and it's a great success for our economy, and for our people here."

Cadet Maelyn Naputi was the 7th cycle's valedictorian and was also on the Top 5 for her exemplary performance.

"There were a lot of things

vice is the Commonwealth's I learned but there are a lot of things I am still going to learn," she said. "Everybody made it easier, the instructors and everyone at Customs. They made it easier for us to learn new things and I am excited for what is ahead."

> Naputi said the journey was difficult and it required a lot of work, especially teamwork, but it was not an issue for her class, resulting in them completing the academy together.

"It was a long journey. Thirteen weeks of hard work but we did it. I worked well with the other cadets and we successfully completed it as a team," she said.

Naputi said her goal now is to become the best possible Customs officer she can be.

The salutatorian of the 7th

cycle academy, cadet Jesseleo Ogo, was also on the Top 5 for exemplary performance.

The academy's Top Gun was awarded to McKnox Mabel, who was also on the Top 5 for showing exemplary performance during the academy.

The two other cadets on the Top 5 list were cadets Wai Lun Guan and Paul Anthony Quizon.

The rest of the graduating class were Raymond Peter DLC Cabrera, Shota N. Castro, Jessica Deleon Guerrero, Jesus Iguel, Nicole Juliet Kapileo, Franklin Lizama, Harry Nakamura, Christian Anthony Pangelinan, Eddie Joe Pangelinan, Kristen Pangelinan, Elden Sablan, Franklin Sablan, Jocelyn Sonia Taitingfong, Mark Tuan-Iam, Rico Vince DLG Villagomez, and Justine Zapanta.







RESULTS

Draw # (1131) Draw Date (01/18/2018)

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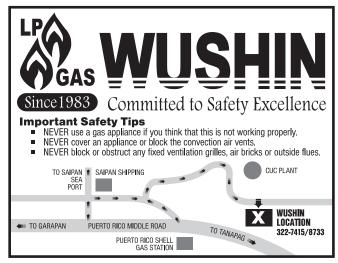
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Igisomar wants guidelines on CW-1 denials

By ERWIN ENCINARES

When U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services denies applications for CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program visa permits, Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) believes guidelines should be in place to inform foreign workers about what they can do next.

In a Senate session yesterday on Capitol Hill, Igisomar said the CNMI Department of Labor or even policy-makers should inform foreign workers

following a newly declined or canceled CW-1 application.

"We must have some sort of guidance or pro-activity from our DOL or our policy-makers or [even] from the employers themselves. Who is responsible for the workers and where do they go?" asked Igisomar.

According to the senator, several foreign workers who have had their CW-1 petitions denied have contacted his office on the matter, seeking assistance.

"Some of these employ-

on their next course of action ees are released from work because USCIS denied their CW-1 petition," he said. These employees are "trying to figure out what to do.'

"Some of them have gone underground for fear that they might be deported by their employer and their...families left behind."

Igisomar said several workers have also reported that their employers, upon learning that their CW-1 petitions have been denied, cancelled their employment. In response, Igisomar said there must be

some sort of guidance for foreign workers, or a frequentlyasked-questions type to educate employers and employees on what they should know if their petition isn cancelled.

"There has got to be some form of guidance or outreach to give them information ahead," he said, adding that suddenly informing an employee that they have to exit the CNMI within 10 days is unreasonable.

Workers who have a family in the CNMI under the CW-2 visa-the visa that allows relatives of a CW-1 worker to enter the CNMI as dependents of the CW-1 applicant—are most

affected, he said. In addition to the CW-1 pro-

gram crisis, the senator maintained that an effort must be done in order to repatriate the workers.

"I know that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is doing his best out there but there is also this thing that I also do not want to forget—that there are some CW-1 employees out there with CW-2 families that are somehow being stranded. We cannot tolerate any employer who does not take the effort to make sure

that there is a good transition for the lives of these workers," he said.

Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) agreed that there is a "lack of guidance" for CW-1 workers. Hofschneider said his office has had its fair share of CW-1 calls for assistance. He added that one worker was reportedly informed to exit the CNMI within 10 days from Dec. 27, 2017.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

CADETS

From Page 1

test, according to DFEMS Commissioner Claudio K. Norita yesterday.

Norita disclosed in a press conference that DFEMS did a drug test in November and December in 2017 and this month on all their personnel in the CNMI, including himself, in compliance with Public Law 18-47, the Mandatory Drug Testing Act of 2013.

For Saipan, the department tested over 93 personnel and 36 cadets last Nov. 20 and 21. Two DFEMS personnel re-

» 2 firefighters resign after refusing drug test

» Rota, Tinian DFEMS personnel all negative for drug use

fused to undergo the test, opting instead to just resign from the department, Norita said.

Of the three cadets who tested positive for marijuana use, one resigned and two were terminated, Norita said.

Cadets are required to undergo a drug test before they enter the academy and the 36 did that with negative results, he said.

"Four weeks after, we caught three of the 36," he added.

On Rota, 11 personnel were tested last Dec. 8 and the results turned out all negative.

On Tinian, 16 personnel were tested last Wednesday and the results were all negative.

DFEMS did the same test in 2016: 11 were positive for marijuana and five were positive for methamphetamine or "ice," Norita said. Of all those 16, one resigned and the rest

were given suspensions, he added. For marijuana use, the suspension lasted 30 days; for "ice," the suspension was for 60 days.

Norita said those who tested positive were required to undergo drug counseling and then return to work.

Those who tested positive were also required to underg a random drug test five months after that and, if positive again, it's termination for them.

The commissioner said the two personnel from Saipan who refused to undergo the test last November were part of the original 16 who tested positive in 2016.

selors to address the need and obstacle of maintaining a stable student-to-teacher ratio in our school system," he said, adding that he looks forward to working with the BOE to resolve the matter.

"At the end of the day, our actions will lead to enhancing the learning environment of our students," he added.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) had reached out to Ada in a letter dated Jan. 4, 2018, after several constituents reportedly communicated with their representatives at the Legislature about the differences in increases.

Demapan had asked PSS to furnish his office with a copy of the implemented salary plan for further study.

a Saipan Tribune report that he had asked the CHCC board to replace chief executive officer Esther Muña but said there is a

BILL

From Page 1

pending legislation that would make the hospital a line department. During the Division of Customs Services graduation yesterday, Torres told reporters

it would be best if he did not comment on the situation at CHCC. "I know I was going to come across this. At this point, it is best that I don't." he said.

Torres said it is best that he does not comment because there is a pending legislation that was introduced by House vice speaker Janet Maritita (R-Saipan) that would revert CHCC back into a line department.

"The Legislature has introduced a bill to put it back as a line department and I believe that it was the vice speaker who introduced that. It is an ongoing issue," he said.

Before the CHCC was created, the over-arching agency was the Department of Public Health. Under that was the hospital, the Commonwealth Health Center, which was also governed by a board. Torres did not state whether the pending legislation would revert CHCC back to this setup or not.

Torres said the Legislature has its own concerns with the situation but whether the board decides to keep Muña or

not, there is still a legislation that will revert the corporation back into a line department.

"We're going to go back and talk to the Legislature because they have their own concerns. We'll see what the board has to say. Obviously it's a decision they do, whether to keep her or not, and we have a legislation to bring it back as a line department," he said.

Whatever route is taken, as far as the CHCC staff are concerned, Torres said there is funding to support them.

"At the end of the day, I want to share that regardless of what road we take, there is funding. We just gave \$ 2.7 million to CHCC," he said.

Torres said he would ensure that the doctors, nurses, and staff of CHC are taken cared of, whatever legislation is passed.

"I am dedicated to ensure that we give them the funding that they need, up to \$5 million every six months, and I say it because I want to dedicate those priorities so that the doctors and nurses get all the supplies that they need. Nothing will hamper that progress," he said.

Torres assured that there will be no disruption to the current progress CHC is making.

"If there is progress, and whatever progress that has been made, we are not going to come in and disrupt any progress but simply give more resources and additional attention to what the doctors and the nurses need and the whole management," Torres said.

MANGLONA

From Page 1

revenues to PSS, has a question this time about the salary increases given to PSS staff.

In a letter dated Jan. 12, 2018, addressed to Board of Education chair Marylou S. Ada, Manglona said: "...It has been brought to my attention that the salary adjustment recently approved and implemented by the board indicates a substantial salary adjustment between administrative staff in comparison to the teachers and counselors."

Ada earlier told Saipan Tribune that the salary compensation plan, as approved by the Board of Education, is based on three factors: years of service at PSS, certifications, and professional development of the individual.

"Nothing more, nothing less," Ada had said.

Insisting that he is not against the raise given to PSS administrative staff, Mangloña said the "minimal increases" given to teachers and counselors should be re-addressed.

"...My concern is for the highly qualified teachers and counselors who work directly with the students that went from a starting salary of \$30,976 with zero to four years of experience to \$33,289.35, as opposed to the lowest average starting salary of \$42,025 in the United States that I advocated for in previous meetings held in the

Senate," said Mangloña.

In her earlier statement, Ada said that not all teachers that were highly qualified were treated in the same category because some of them have not been certified.

"After one receives a basic certification, the need to get certified on other teaching programs never stop and we give credence to that," she had added.

According to Manglona, teachers and counselors in the CNMI remain devoted to students despite having to use their own money to buy items and educational materials for their students.

"I cannot stress enough the importance of increasing the salaries of teachers and coun-

> for PSS employees needing to travel off-island were being denied for no reason at all by the defendants

He said the defendants made attempts to replace those employees being recommended by Deleon Guerrero for off-island travel with employees not qualified to take such travels.

Nicholas said the defendants were able to reorganize the positions of legal counsels hired by PSS by removing them from BOE as employees.

He said this left PSS and Deleon Guerrero without any

dants attempted to have Deleon Guerrero fund the legal counsel positions with PSS funds, which she refused.

On another occasion, Nicholas said, the defendants demanded that Deleon Guerrero transfer \$175,000 in PSS funds to a BOE account because defendants had exhausted their allotted budget for fiscal year 2016-17. He said Deleon Guerrero again refused to do so as it was her understanding that this was against the law.

"The amount of hostilities toward [Deleon Guerrero] by the defendants only grew as time went on and was displayed most prominently at private and public meetings which the defendants called, with plaintiff being berated

and harassed in front of others and the individual defendants themselves," Nicholas said.

He said Deleon Guerrero wrote a letter of complaint last Oct. 6 that addressed her concerns about the hostilities toward her. No response was ever received from the defendants about this.

Deleon Guerrero received notice about her termination in an email she got upon her arrival in Honolulu, Hawaii for a Head Start conference last Oct. 30.

Nicholas said the defendants did not give Deleon Guerrero an opportunity to be heard regarding her evaluation and, more importantly, the termination of her contract.

PSS

From Page 1

Janice A. Tenorio, secretary/ treasurer Herman M. Atalig, member Herman T. Guerrero. and member Florine M. Hofschneider in their individual capacities, Deleon Guerrero claims violations of her Fifth and 14th Amendment rights under the U.S. Constitution.

Deleon Guerrero wants the BOE held liable to pay her \$350,000 in compensatory damages, and Ada, Tenorio. Atalig, Guerrero, and Hofschneider for compensatory and punitive damages.

As of press time yesterday, Saipan Tribune was still wait-

ing for comments from Ada and the BOE.

The lawsuit was filed on Wednesday

The BOE employed Deleon Guerrero as commissioner of the Public School System four years, from November 2016 to November 2020.

Nicholas said that on Oct. 30, 2017, the BOE voted to terminate Deleon Guerrero's contract "without cause."

Nicholas said the defendants, in an attempt to justify the purported termination, made a public statement that Deleon Guerrero was terminated because she was not getting along with them.

Yet Deleon Guerrero alleges that her termination was in re-

taliation for her calling out and questioning the defendants in their micromanagement of PSS. Nicholas said.

The lawyer said it was also in retaliation for Deleon Guerrero's refusal to consent to the BOE members' continued requests for funding from PSS because the board members had exhausted all of their budget for fiscal year 2016 to 2017.

Nicholas said that almost immediately upon being hired, the board asked Deleon Guerrero to remove certain "key management officials" from PSS, which Deleon Guerrero refused to do.

The lawyer said Deleon Guerrero also questioned why certain travel authorizations legal assistance. The lawyer said the defen-

Ex-USPS officer gets probation for stealing package

The federal court handed down yesterday a sentence of 24 months in probation against a man who stole a package from the Chalan Kanoa post office while employed as a postal officer of the U.S. Postal Service.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered Mark Champaco Tyquiengco to pay a \$3,000 fine and \$100 in special assessment fee, and write a letter of apology to the victim, Victor Salas, and to the U.S. Postal Service Saipan addressed to U.S. Postmaster Harry Wilcox.

Tyquiengco was required to perform 25 hours of community service, which shall be suspended if he is employed.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto, counsel for the U.S. government, agreed with the recommendation of the U.S. Probation Office for a probationary term of 24 months and a \$1,000 fine.

"The government believes that imposition of a probationary sentence and fine, given the facts and circumstances of this case, will avoid any unwarranted sentencing disparity with others convicted of the same crime," said Benedetto.

Defense counsel Robert T. Torres also agreed with the recommendation of the U.S. Probation Office.

Torres said Tyquiengco's actions were out of character and a term of supervised probation will allow him to show his true character.

"He is a person worth saving and can and should do better in the community rather than be isolated from it," said Torres.

Tyquiengco pleaded guilty last August to theft of mail by a postal service employee.

The original indictment charged him with mail theft and theft of mail. The remaining charge was dropped. (Ferdie de la Torre)



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MCS alumni group readying 'Night with the Knights'



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The AlumKnight Association's Program Committee met recently to plan the program for the upcoming "Night with the Knights", the school's annual AlumKnight fundraising banquet. Clockwise from bottom left: Victor Cabrera, Cyji Cepeda, Helene Manning, Priscilla Dela Cruz, and James Benavente.

Mount Carmel School's AlumKnight Association is gearing up for its signature event, "The Night with the Knights," set for Saturday, Feb. 3, at Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

Since the association launched over a year ago, the school's alumni, called Alum-Knights, have been working to help their alma mater. Headed by Charles V. Cepeda, the association has supported the school's Save the Stage Campaign and is currently raising funds for scholarships and new furniture for the school.

For Cepeda, it's all about giving back. "I attended here and I want to see it flourish." Recalling how difficult he was at times, he said, "I owe it to all the principals and teachers who were patient with me, especially while I was here for my formative years. ... This is where my roots are."

Fellow AlumKnight Priscilla Dela Cruz agrees. "We are doing all that we can to make an impact and give back to our school."

She noted that many Alum-Knights have already come forward to contribute to the Save the Stage Campaign, including the Class of 1967 led by former lieutenant governor Jesse Borja and J.M. and Rieko Guerrero.

It's also about bringing AlumKnights together, Dela Cruz noted. "Of course we encourage AlumKnights to help their alma mater, but we also want everyone to enjoy their time together, reminisce about their days at Mount Carmel School, and celebrate our school's rich legacy, which is what the Night with the Knights will be all about!"

She said the association is planning several events throughout the year, including a sports competition that will be headed by AlumKnights John Blanco, James Benavente, and Patrick Guerrero.

The Night with the Knights will be the culminating celebration of Catholic Schools Week 2018. The night will feature a music video montage of the school's history, raffle prizes, and entertainment. The 2018 AlumKnight Class of the Year and a few other surprise awards will also be announced.

The event will also include the recognition of the 2018 AlumKnight of the Year. Past awardees include former governor Benigno Fitial of the Class of '64, the late governor Eloy Inos from the Class of '66, former lieutenant governor and retired justice Jesus C. Borja from Class of '66, business leader and entrepreneur Jesus V. "J. M." Deleon Guerrero of the Class of '68, former lawmaker Felicidad Ogumoro of the Class of '68, architect and entrepreneur Efrain F. Camacho, Class of '69; school leader Rita Kazuma-Guerrero, Class of '69; the CNMI's delegate to Congress, Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, Class of '73; Bank of Guam vice president and CNMI regional manager, Merced "Marcie" Tomokane, Class of '73; former Board of Education chair and attorney, Lucia Blanco-Maratita, Class of '77, former lieutenant governor Diego T. Benavente, Class of '77; attorney Brien Sers Nicholas, Class of '79; physician Dr. Norma Ada, Class of '84; educator Dr. Debra Tudela Cabrera, Class of '88; educator Dora Borja Miura, Class of '90; law professor Rose Cuison Villazor, Class of '91; educator Elaine Cabrera DelaCruz, Class of '97: and former lawmaker Tina Sablan, Class of '99.

Tickets for the Night with the Knights cost \$50 each and can be purchased at the school's business office or from Alum-Knights. For more information, call 234-6184 or email Priscilla Dela Cruz at presdelacruz@ gmail.com. (PR)



PUBLIC NOTICE

notice that there will be a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Northern Marianas College, Tinian campus, building B (room E) in San Jose

<u>AGENDA</u>

- I. PRELIMINARY

 - 3. Election of Officers
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Vice Chairman
 - c. Secretary: Jesusa Atalig d. Treasurer (acting): Jovita S.N. Paulino
 - 4. Adoption of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes a. October 21, 2017 Special Meeting
- 6. Correspondence PUBLIC COMMENTS¹

MANAGEMENT REPORT

- 1. Division Manager's Report
- 2. Treasurer Report
- 3. Scholarship Report
- IV. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING
- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION²
 VI. ADJOURNMENT

Acting Chairwoman

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F150 XL 2WD	HKC68426	WHITE	\$4,000
F150 XL 2WD	HKC68428	WHITE	\$5,000
EXPLORER XLT SPORT	5H O 6 2 51	BLACK	\$4,000
EXPLORER XLT 4WD	GGB38168	WHITE	\$6,000

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\$4,000
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\$6,000
\$6,000

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RIO FWD	G6591553	RED	\$2,500
RIO LX FWD	H6034826	YELLOW	\$3,000
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VISA

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has his picture taken with Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Sens. Francisco Q. Cruz and Jude U. Hofschneider. Rep. Edwin P. Aldan, Municipal Council chair Antonio SN. Borja, and Edwin M. Hofschneider, members of the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, and Tinian Municipal Council.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Torres signs three bills into law

On Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed into law:

- House Local Bill 20-44, S1, which re-appropriates \$1,270,779.89 from Section 2(a) of Tinian Local Law 20-3. Offered by Rep. Edwin P. Aldan and passed unanimously by the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, this bill becomes Tinian Local Law 20-09.
- Senate Bill 20-40, SD1, which provides for the identification of a disabled veteran with at least 10 percent disability due to a service-related injury on license plates. Authored by Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz, this bill becomes Public Law 20-37.
- Senate Bill 20-72, which amends the CNMI guardianship statute to give the court flexibility to determine who is a qualified petitioner in order to protect the best interest of children who require guardianship in the CNMI. Authored by Senate President Arnold I. Palacios, this bill becomes Public Law 20-38. (PR)

Japanese diving magazine dives the Marianas



Japan's Marine Diving magazine photographs at Laulau Beach on Jan. 11, 2018, for a March 2018 article about diving spots on Saipan and Tinian. Rota will be featured as an online publication in April 2018.

Japan's Marine Diving returned to the Marianas this month to capture photogenic diving spots on Saipan and Tinian for its March 2018 print issue. A special feature on Rota will be published online in April 2018.

Marine Diving magazine circulates 100,000 copies monthly to divers of all ages. This year's coverage targets active female divers and is expected to bring the Marianas \$10,000 in ad exposure value.

"Marine Diving magazine has featured the Marianas nearly every year for a number of years now, and we are very happy to have them back," said Marianas Visitors Authority marketing manager Broc Calvo. "Not only will they be highlighting our fantastic diving, but also sightseeing spots, shops, and restaurants that for active divers."

Dive sites visited by the crew included Laulau Beach, Obyan Beach, Pau

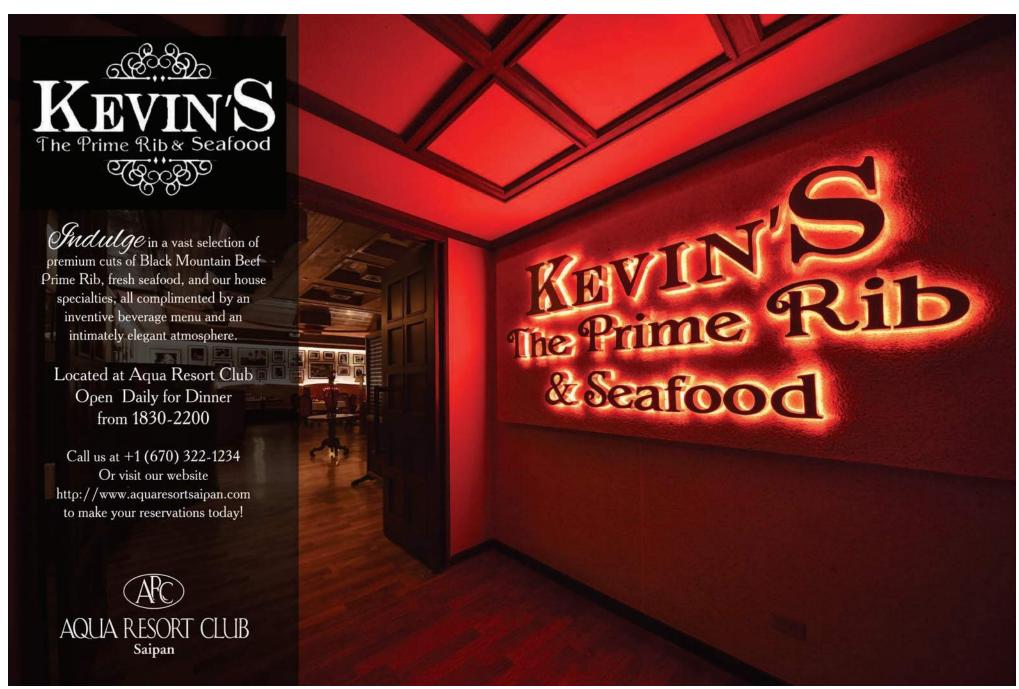
and Saipan Grotto. Other sites visited included Mandi Asian Spa, Mariana Ocean, the Iglesia ni Cristo church,

make this an ideal destination Pau Beach, Tinian Grotto, Garapan street market, Mi- Bar & Grill, Joeten Hafa cro Beach, Country House Restaurant, IHop, Mt. Tapochau, Payless ShoeSource, Loco Boutique, Naked Fish

Adai shopping center, and Spicy Thai Noodle Place.

The group lodged at Mariana Resort & Spa. (MVA)





UOG unveils ultra-high-speed GOREX network

The University of Guam unveiled yesterday its new ultra-high-speed 100-gigabit GOREX network during an event at the UOG Office of Information Technology.

The GOREX network—or Guam Open Research & Education eXchange—connects Guam to Hawaii and California via the new SEA-U.S. fiber-optic submarine cable.

Installation was completed this week by technicians from UOG, University of Hawaii, and telecommunications firm GTA. Guam is now connected to the global Research and Education Network fabric and is now capable of supporting high-speed exchanges of very large scientific datasets between Guam and other research institutions.

To put into context what the GOREX network can do, it would take over three years to download 1,000 terabytes of data using a 100-megabit-per-second network. Through GOREX's ultra-high-speed 100-gigabit-per-second network, the same 1,000 terabytes of data can now be downloaded in just a day.

Because of the sheer amount of data collected, shared, and analyzed, UOG research centers such as the Marine Laboratory and the Water Environmental Research Institute will benefit the most from GOREX at the onset. However, UOG president Robert Underwood believes the true impact to the island community is in the opportunity for data access, exchange, and analysis in other fields such as healthcare, economics, and the social sciences.

"We can now conduct re-



The University of Guam unveiled its high-speed GOREX network Jan. 18 at the Office of Information Technology. From left to right: Andrew Guihama, IT Project management coordinator; Leo Llegado, Computer Center assistant; Randy Dahilig, Jr. network engineer (GOREX local hands); Randy Wiegand, UOG vice president of Administration and Finance; Jose Santiago, Jr. network engineer (GOREX Local hands); Dr. Tom Schils, UOG Marine Lab director; Dr. Robert Underwood, UOG president; Steven Mamaril, Jr. Information Security Analyst (GOREX local hands); Dr. Bastian Bentlage, UOG EPSCoR grant co-principal investigator; Rommel Hidalgo, UOG chief information officer; Frank Lujan, chief technology officer, Government of Guam Office of Technology and co-chair of the UOG EPSCoR Science and Technology Steering Committee: Contributed Photo

search at complex levels, not just for the sciences, but in other fields as well," said Underwood. "Think about the issues that we discuss as a society and how we make many decisions with limited data. GOREX gives our students and faculty the tools to truly exchange and analyze large amounts of data in any number of fields with other institutions all over the world. And as a university, it is our responsibility to report our findings back to the community. That's the impact."

International partnerships

UOG chief information offi-

cer Rommel Hidalgo said the GOREX facility and the ultrahigh-speed SEA-U.S. connection in Guam would not have been possible without the leadership and support of the University of Hawaii System and its president, David Lassner, who has been working to increase research and education network connectivity in the Pacific for more than 20 years.

"We are thankful for the vision, support, and leadership of President Lassner and the University of Hawaii, for enabling the implementation of GOREX. We are also thankful to Steven Huter and the

[Network Startup Resource Center] for their help in improving UOG's network and training the UOG network team that will be supporting GOREX. The GOREX consortium is on track to install additional ultra-high-speed connections using other submarine cables. GOREX will soon connect Asia, Australia, and America through Guam," said Hidalgo.

The University of Oregon's Network Startup Resource Center provided training support to UOG network technicians. "We are delighted to support the University of Guam's efforts to augment the institution's scientific research and education capabilities for faculty and students," said Hervey Allen, assistant director, NSRC. "The dedication of the UOG Information Technology team and executive leadership will create the necessary cyberinfrastructure for facilitating data-intensive research in Guam and provide benefits to other U.S. territories in the Pacific Islands."

The GOREX consortium includes the University of Hawaii, the University of Oregon Network Startup Resource Center, the University of Guam, Pacific

Wave, Australia's Academic and Research Network, Internet2, Singapore's SingaREN, New Zealand's REANNZ, and other partners. The overarching goal is to promote increased growth and effectiveness of data-intensive and highly collaborative research and education activities engaging the Asia-Pacific region with the global research and education community.

For more information, visit the UOG GOREX website at http://gorex.uog.edu or call the UOG Office of Information Technology at (671) 735-2640. *(UOG)*



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Let's Go Places

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Solly Takai-Nakamura, left, extension agent of NMC-CREES Agriculture Production Program shows Green Meadow School students and teachers the various crops planted at the NMC CREES-Center for Agriculture Development in As Perdido.



Marianas Variety

Saipan Tribune

GMS students take tour of NMC-CREES agri center

Green Meadow School students and teachers recently visited the Center for Agriculture Development of the Northern Marianas College's Cooperative Research and Extension Education Services in As Perdido to gain valuable information about farming.

School principal Milagros Songcuan accompanied 25 students and three teachers to the center early this month and were met by Solly Takai-Nakamura, an extension agent of NMC-CREES Agriculture Production Program, and Dr. Don Rayome, NMC CREES horticulture and crop scientist.

Takai-Nakamura toured the visitors around, showing them the crops that are grown at the center while explaining how they are being taken cared off.

"We focus on small-scale vegetable production and growing vegetables like eggplants, tomatoes, peppers, zucchini,s corn, beans, melons, okra, and cucumbers," Takai-Nakamura said.

She added that the dean of NMC-CREES oversees and supports the work at the farm. There are six individuals who work at the center and maintenance is done daily as the fields need to be monitored every day.

Takai-Nakamura also said they welcome visitors, especially students, at the center as NMC-CREES aims to promote awareness of farming and food sustainability.

"Part of promoting gar-

dens at schools is to show the students where food comes from. Our islands import many perishable fruits and vegetables, of which may be produced on our islands. The importance of growing foods at school or at home is to help the students and their families understand sustainability. Sustainability in a sense where we can produce some foods at our homes for consumption, therefore decreasing some costs spent on imported fruits and vegetable," Takai-Nakamura said.

Songcuan was thankful to NMC-CREES, Takai-Nakamura, and Rayome for allowing them to visit the center and sharing their knowledge.

"Our visit to the center was very timely because our Student Council recently launched a school garden program. We want our students to know how fruits and vegetables are grown so they will better understand why it is not good to waste food. It's also nice to have a school garden so we can make good use of the extra space in our school," Songcuan said.

"I would love to see some fruits and vegetables growing at our school garden. We can use them and not buy from the store for our school's cooking lessons and other activities. I would also like to learn gardening skills that I can use to help my parents if they want to grow crops at our home," GMS STUCO president Cloe Ferlyn Lagmay said. (PR)



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VERNMENT.

/S/ EPHIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR. ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

DIRECTOR, P&S



SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 05, 2018 TIME: 9:30 A.M.

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/S/ EPHIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR. ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S

Marianas students to get 3,000 iPads—Kilili

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Students and teachers in the Marianas will get 3,000 new iPads for their educational toolkits this month, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) announced in a video to constituents yesterday.

The iPads are paid for out of the additional \$4.1 million Sablan got for the Marianas in the Every Student Succeeds Act, signed in December 2015.

This is just the first year for the new ESSA funding formula that Sablan wrote for island schools. The extra money now continues year after year.

The Public School System will be putting the iPads into elementary and junior high schools beginning next week. Plans are to continue adding 3,000 per year.

"Having this equipment in their schools is going to make a lot of students and their teachers happy," Sablan said. "I congratulate PSS for recognizing that our children need to be familiar with a tool they will use in the workplace.

"More importantly, these iPads will help students practice the essential skills of reading and researching that will serve them well throughout their lives."

As a member of the House Education Committee, Sablan was able to get a funding formula for island schools included in the Section 1203 of the Every Student Succeeds Act. His change affects the biggest

Power interruption set on Jan. 27

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Saipan on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018, from 7:30am to 12pm to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. line crew to replace three wooden power poles with concrete poles along Chalan Tun Thomas P. Sablan in San Antonio.

This is part of an ongoing Hazard Mitigation Project that involves replacing 787 wooden poles with concrete poles.

A total of 331 wooden poles have already been replaced; the remaining 456 wooden poles will be scheduled for replacement at a later time.

Areas to be affected include Kiya 2 (2" Partial): Chalan Tun Thomas P. Sablan in San Antonio (Lililok Pl., Alu Dr., and Bua Ln.) and Afetna Road.

No water well will be affected but the A-3 wastewater lifts station will be affected.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas.

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pot of federal education money that goes to states and territories. Sablan's amendment was the only change allowed in the formula nationwide.

"It took me six years of work to make that change," Sablan said. "It could only happen with reauthorization of the underlying Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which provides federal help

for school districts with a high percentage of low-income families, like the Marianas. So, I had to be patient.

"I used those six years to lay the groundwork with other members of the committee. That is the long game required for changes in federal law, especially when millions of dollars are involved."

Sablan's funding formula

change boosts the federal grant for PSS to \$11.5 million this year—a \$4.1-million increase. The annual funding will grow as total federal education spending increases.

Sablan said he looks forward to talking with students and teachers about how they are using the new iPads. The Marianas delegate always tries to visit at least one classroom, when he travels back home from his work in Washington.

'Our people are our future'

"My long-term goal for the Marianas is to have an educated population," Sablan explained. "Our people are our future. And the better educated our [children] are, the better off we all will be 10, 20, 30 years from now."

The Marianas delegate's work also benefited American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"As the only insular area representative on the Educa-

tion Committee, I feel a responsibility to look out for the other areas," Sablan said. "We all work together, across party lines, on many issues. We have much more in common representing the non-state areas of the U.S. than what separates us as Republicans, Democrats, or Independents.

Sablan is a senior member of the Committee and ranking member of its Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions. *(PR)*



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EDITORIAL

It's up to Congress to save the internet

ongressional Republicans breathed new life last year into the all-but-ignored Congressional Review Act, using it to reverse a wide range of Obama administration regulations on the environment, consumer protection and workplace issues. Now Senate Democrats are trotting out the act to undo a Republican effort to let cable and phone companies meddle with the internet. This particular turnabout is most definitely fair play.

At issue is the Federal Communications Commission's move not just to repeal the strict net neutrality rules it adopted in 2015, but also to renounce virtually all of the commission's regulatory authority over broadband internet providers. Its new "Restoring Internet Freedom" order, adopted last month on a party-line vote, opens the door to the likes of Comcast, AT&T and Verizon giving deep-pocketed websites and services priority access to their customers for a fee. It also lifts the ban on broadband providers blocking or slowing down traffic from legal online sites and services, provided they do so openly. Such steps could cause unprecedented distortion in what has been a free and open internet.

The Restoring Internet Freedom order was a triumph of ideology over sense, sacrificing the interests of internet users and innovators on the altar of deregulatory purity. Some leading broadband providers, recognizing that they got more from the FCC than they'd bargained for, pledged never to use their newfound freedom to interfere online. But that's not enough.

Ideally, Congress would do something it should have done a decade ago: update federal communications law to give the FCC a mandate and clear authority to protect net neutrality. In the meantime, though, Senate Democrats have gathered more than enough support to force a floor vote on a resolution to reject the new FCC order and bar any similar deregulation for 10 years. In fact, they've lined up 50 senators in favor of the resolution, including one Republican, Susan Collins of Maine. That's just one short of passage.

The prospects are dimmer in the House, where Republicans seem to rank deregulation in the pantheon with Mom and apple pie. Still, the fierce public backlash to the FCC's order is powering a multi-front effort to repeal it, including lawsuits (one of which was filed Tuesday by the attorneys general of California, 20 other states and the District of Columbia) and proposals for state net neutrality laws in California and elsewhere. Although the FCC's abdication invites states to wade in, no one should be eager for a patchwork of state neutrality rules. That's all the more reason for Congress to step up. Lawmakers should reject the FCC's latest rule and preserve the qualities that have made the internet what it is today.

(c)2018 Los Angeles Times



A very bad idea

By ED STEPHENS

SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

hope that you are enjoying 2018. Me, I'm just emerging from 2017. The final carry-over task from last year was to rehabilitate an old camper shell. The good news is that this topic adds some outdoorsy grit to this space today. We can put on our work boots, light up some cigarettes, and pretend that we're going to do some fixin'.

The bad news is that we're not going to fix anything. In fact, I'm just wasting your time.

Well, why not? I already wasted a lot of mine.

Fiberglass camper shells are, of course, common accessories for pickup trucks. Until recently, however, I never gave them (shells, not trucks) much thought. I darned sure never considered how they were constructed.

But a couple of months ago I bought a used four-wheel drive truck. It had a shell attached to it.

I was conspiring to dispose of the shell, but my wife rallied to its defense since she does not like the concept of wasting stuff.

The front window of the shell was missing entirely. Though the rear window was intact, the locking mechanism was broken and the gas props were missing. As a result, the whole rear plane just sort of flaps up and then bangs back down when I drive over bumps. Owing to the missing front window, rain has been intruding for, apparently, years. There's mold and moss growing in the bed.

The whole thing is pathetic.

I built a stand to put the thing on so I could work on it in the garage. After that I used plywood to make a cover for where the front window should be. Contouring the plywood took a long time, though, since there was an overhang on the shell that prevented getting a flush mating surface for tracing. I wound up cutting little by little with a jigsaw by trial and error.

Mounting the wooden plug to support slats on the inside wasn't rocket science, but the slats had to be contoured in order to prevent their corners from punching through the fiberglass sides of the shell. Then I noticed that the fastener heads were sinking into the plywood face. In fact, a couple had punched all the way through the first ply. I had to take everything apart, put in some washers, and put things back together again.

By this point I had competing chores that needed the garage space. So I put the shell back on the truck and I tore apart the stand. I reasoned that the repairs to the rear area could be done while the shell is on the truck.

The field of vision out of the rearview mirror was, of course, a plank of plywood. During my road tests I realized that I didn't

By ED STEPHENS JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



some poor pedestrian in a parking lot or something, so I figured I should get rid of the plywood and put in plexiglass.

This entailed going to a glass shop so they could cut the plexiglass and mount it in the frame. For the glass to go into the frame,

really like being blind in that sector. I was afraid I'd back over

glass and mount it in the frame. For the glass to go into the frame, the frame had to first come out of the shell. The frame was held in by a series of quarter-inch head fasteners, which were easily removed, but it also had a rivet that I had to drill out, which would have been easy if I had the foresight to take a drill with me.

Once that little hiccup was addressed, it seemed pretty straightforward during the removal process.

However, the weather stripping was old, brittle, and obstreperous. A few days later, when it was time to put things back together, I just couldn't get things to settle in correctly.

I'm not even six feet tall but being hunched over in the back of that shell for long spans made me feel like Goliath in a shoebox. Not just any Goliath, but a Goliath with about 80 kneecaps and elbows that were all grinding against the unyielding surfaces of corrugated truck-bed metal.

After an hour of fumbling with it, I accidentally dropped the frame, with its new, custom-cut plexiglass widow, between the rear of the cab and the front of the shell. The odds of it free-falling in that narrow space, without its plunge being encumbered by any proximate material, were about a million-to-one.

Hey, I finally beat the odds in something. The frame assembly is now in my junk pile.

As for the rear window area I needed to find parts that would fit. While I was researching this end of things I was airing out the dank and humid confines of the camper shell, having propped up the rear window with a length of 2-by-4.

That afternoon a stray dog jumped into the back of the truck and made it home. The dog is big and seems pretty moody.

And that is where I left the project.

Fortunately, I don't need four-wheel drive capability this week. I can get away with driving my other car. That's just what I'm doing. In the meantime, I'm updating the books for this endeavor:

Outflows: \$200 and about 14 hours of time.

Inflows: One stray dog of dubious temperament.

Demonstrating to my wife that I'm not wasteful: priceless.

Resolving the CW issue

he continuing debate on CW workers should be put into perspective with the purposeful goal of resolving it once and for all.

The pathway is for the CNMI to adopt the prevailing wage of all industries across the country. This should be accompanied by training programs set up by the U.S. Department of Labor in concert with vocational institutions here. At the end of the training the USDOL issues certification to trainees. This certification is a lifetime ticket to jobs.

The plus side to this recommendation is the training opportunity and certification. It grants trainees the chance to really master their trades while earning higher income as plumbers, mechanics, electricians, among others. The stamp of certification is as good as gold wherever you go across the country. So is it here or elsewhere where opportunities abound to earn a decent living in a meaningful vocation.

I've seen this program implemented in Guam (apprenticeship) and how certified employees eventually moved to Hawaii or across the country and never had to worry about going jobless. They are trained and certified in their technical or trade of specialty.

The elected elite must critically look at this as a pathway to grant the people you represent real opportunities to move ahead. By the end of the term, most would have left food stamps and other federal assistance. What a way to grant employees a dignified exit to abject poverty income level and poor living conditions.

Illustration: I've randomly picked some industries to show average annual salaries paid or on an hourly basis. Average annual salaries: in *casinos*, casino shift manager, \$50,478; sous chef, \$41,111; security manager, \$44,410; food and beverage supervisor, \$35,725; executive chef, \$61,629; casino host, \$33,584; internal auditor, \$48,599; in *education*: elementary school teacher, \$44,017; high school teacher, \$48,744;, administrative assistant, \$35,325.

In *health*: registered nurse, \$27.85 per hour; certified nurse assistant, \$11.96 per hour; medical assistant, \$14.57 per hour; licensed practical nurse, \$18.68 per hour; in *private banks*: private banker, \$76,618; branch manager, \$49,338; portfolio manager, \$104,415; loan officer, \$45,912; credit analyst, \$49,115; financial analyst, \$55,955. The federal minimum

wage is \$7.25 per hour.

Da canoe: Perhaps the cool tropical breeze has sent us into that long yawning session as to ignore basic issues affecting life on the islands. Thus, we often miss our canoe ride into brighter tomorrows.

We never paid attention to the transition provision of U.S. Public Law 110-229, convinced that taller-than-Abe-Lincoln speeches before congressional committees would grant us another reprieve. It isn't happening, people! We missed our canoe ride by failing to do the right thing by doing it right.

For years we go in and out to reduce the bicameral legislature into a unicameral system with at least eight members. It's an excess baggage blindly paid for by taxpayers. It died in the pages of the newspapers. We missed our canoe ride emplacing stronger measures to strengthen our governmental institutions.

We thought casino is the savior to resolving the financial needs of the NMI. Well, casino would devolve into a component of the tourism industry, as competition from without derails the magical revenue we thought would be forthcoming. Did we miss our canoe ride of reality check?

As substantive issues pile up and treated with casual ignorance, you wonder where our canoe is headed in the midst of financial headwinds ahead. The hospital is insufficiently funded while PSS scrambles to secure its 25 percent. The rest must settle for crumbs under the table of ill-fated political disposition. Shouldn't we send Da Boysis on their own canoe of *adios* this November?

The elected elite quickly approved their 80-percent salary increase. They're so greedy they simply ignored giving us taxpayers a ride on their 80-percent canoe. Well, we found our rusty tin boats to meet them upon their return this November. Eh, they're laughing nervously these days.

The half-cocked elected elite wrongly translate their political power to mean they're in charge of matters of state. Sure, they may be "leading" the troops, hardly wary that their role is hardly "leadership" but a wildebeest fiesta! So

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



you've missed the canoe of leadership, *di ba*? Well, we could give you a ride on our canoe right into the sunset of oblivion around November of this year.

I still couldn't figure out the new legislative mathematical formula of 156 percent plus 29 percent equals 80 percent in salary hike. Woe! Maybe it is "we the people" who missed our canoe ride, therefore we won't be smiling when heading to the bank, right?

Intersection: It is known locally as Puntan Muchot (Micro Beach) that once served as an ancestral fishing community. It is also the landing ground of fishermen in the olden days that go out some 500 miles for big fish.

With a large catch, they'd stop by Managaha to clean out the fish before heading into Puntan Muchot. The catch was subsequently distributed to people in the community and nearby villages. It is seafood that supplemented local farming through the years.

It was this very reason that I joined a lawsuit in the mid-'60s to prevent the building of what's today Hyatt Regency and preserve it for posterity. If we had succeeded it would have meant the complete reservation of the American Memorial Park for the indigenous people. We lost the case! Troubling the quiet acquiescence of our people.

The area now interconnects tradition and cronyism. When I drive into Puntan Muchot at night, I see the huge glow of businesses that light up the evening sky. Behind me was once the seat of tradition where the sun has set in the horizon. Hmmm! The quirk of fate had me quizzing: is tradition really history now?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CW vs profit making = leadership?

Historians wouldn't write kindly about the CNMI's leadership and its leaders when it comes to treatment of foreign workers here at home. We have little or no credibility at all in our arguments in favor of retention or extension of the CW program. Employers of this group of workers contributed to the stigma attached to the CW job program. The federal government's continued bewilderment on this subject is the irrepressible display of leadership incompetency and the unfortunate grave consequences of their actions, or lack thereof.

Government and business leaders' mental fixation and impulsive obsession in promoting a class of workers who, historically, have been exploited due to their vulnerable status, clearly exposed their true motivation...money making. Exploitation of workers never benefited the victims. It only enriches the exploiters, complicit with government leaders. We have seen the collusion between government and business leaders to undermine the good intent behind the CW program for the sake of money and profit. No one can consider these statements as "fake news" or "alternative facts," and if there is, most likely he or she is a protégé of President Donald Trump, a pathological liar.

When issue of money and profitability enter the debate in policy enforcement and good governance, even morally conscious people cause harm to others. Money is a portable form of power. Making profit wins all the time. There is quantitative evidence that money shaped the CW debate. When a government is under the spell of corporations, the outcome predictably produces victims. In our case innocent foreign workers are the victims, which implicated local workforce interests as well.

So, what have we learned as a community regarding the CW debates? For one thing, our government leaders failed us by not faithfully discharging their sworn duty to follow the law, especially U.S. Public Law 110-229. Secondly, our government leaders failed us by not having the fortitude to create a vision to achieve a workable remedy for our labor workforce needs. Thirdly, and perhaps this is why the federal government has little sympathy to come to our rescue: The documented failure and blatant disregard for protecting the rights of these vulnerable class of workers for the exclusive interest of profit making just doesn't sit well with Congress. Human right is so fundamental that nations go to war to protect it.

We in the Commonwealth are no less excused from doing whatever we can to protect and defend this right. If profit making and the eventual demise of the CW program for the Commonwealth is the end game, then government and business leaders should be brave enough to take full ownership of this colossal failure. They are exclusively and solely responsible for any pending volatility in our economy. The federal government cannot be used as political scapegoat to coverup gross negligence and lack of vision.

If former governor Eloy S. Inos is still alive today, this matter wouldn't have been the way it is now. Not only did he embody democratic principles but he displayed political astuteness—an increasingly important leadership trait in a 21st century workforce—in other critical matters that imperiled our Commonwealth prior to his untimely passing. Sadly, I don't see that quality with the current leadership, and our vested interests are adversely impacted and harmed as a result.

Daniel O. Quitugua Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Phoney Baloney Island of the Mind

Rough seas ahead for Year 2, Trumpty burned spaghetti, all due respect to Lawrence Ferlinghetti

The 2016 electoral college held after the popular vote began a phoney island of the mind, a national shame and a billionaire narcissist with more power was smote with a wand of unreality not new to the reality TV star Tweets are issued forth from every WH 'dump' room from early in the morning hours into the evening gloom as Cabinet officials get fired, indicted, fall and flip info about a ruble rich increasingly restricted irrational realm so Tweety D. gets his hair dyed and pressed to the side and readies himself for Year Two fumbling at the helm he besmirched the able director of and the rest of the FBI

Congressmen drop out left and right to escape Tweety's net the 'lying media' laughs at the scandals and sometimes cries Tweety shouts, "believe me believe me!" he's not done yet.

Wash. D.C. Comic and Tragic Predictions 2018

Who really cares about all those political predictions as DJT continues his shameful autocratic predilections. There will be a new best selling non-alcoholic beer called 'Lying Meadia' its slogan is, "You can't get drunk here". The distinct possibility of hypocritical hypotheticals. Roy Moore will form a church for pedophile evangelicals. Trump 2020 campaign sends doctored footage to media showing huge inauguration crowds in a video encyclopedia. Donald Jr. forms a legal Russian immigrant soccer team.

LITERARY NOOK By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years.

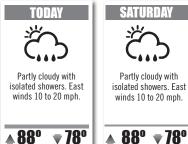
He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

the 'Russian Bear Rubles' mascot sells '45' vodka ice cream Tweety will continue tweeting nonsense as he sees fit a demagogic narcissistic bull preaching in a Wall St. pulpit More true predictions to come soon after they take place they are the only way my prognostications can save face.

16 FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN





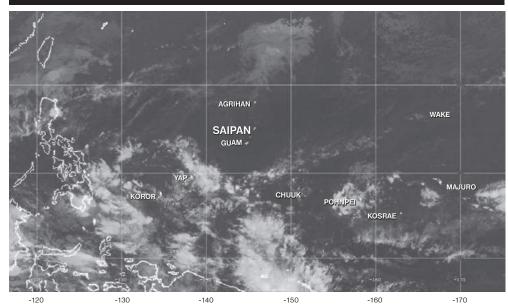






▲ 87°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:35 AM, THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180

Little change is expected over the next week as models continue to point to a dry tradewind pattern over the Marianas. A large high pressure system moving off of Japan into the north Pacific early next week will cause trade winds to increase across the Marianas. Stronger winds may warrant the consideration of a fire weather watch for Guam this weekend. The concern would be for conditions conducive to fast-spreading wildfires that are difficult to control. Worth noting, the airport has recorded only .38 inches of rain so far in January. This dry season is leaving its mark on the fire danger as the Keetch-Byrum Drought Index, now in the extreme category, sits at 657.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESI	A	▲ ▼°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	83° / 78°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	83° / 80°

Majuro	Thunderstorms	83° / 80°
AROUND TH	F GLOBE	A ▼°F
Auckland	Showers	75° / 68°
Beijing	Sunny	41° / 19°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	70° / 63°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	82° / 70°
London	Partly Cloudy	43° / 34°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	64° / 46°
Manila	Cloudy	88° / 75°
Melbourne	Cloudy	75° / 61°
Miami	Cloudy	70° / 64°
New York	Sunny	44° / 33°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	52° / 36°
Paris	Showers	45° / 36°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	48° / 34°
Rome	Showers	57° / 46°
Salem	Sunny	53° / 28°
San Francisco	Showers	50° / 43°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	45° / 21°
Tokyo	Showers	45° / 36°
Washington, DC	Sunny	49° / 30°



Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

	1 0 10 1	
TIDES: SAIP	AN HARBOR TO	DAY FEET
3:09 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.25
10:00 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.89
3:41 PM	LOW TIDE	1.10
8:28 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.81

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:47 AM	6:08 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:08 PM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:09 PM
Monday	6:47 AM	6:09 PM
Tuesday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	8:06 am	7:54 pm	-
Saturday	8:49 am	8:44 pm	-
Sunday	9:30 am	9:34 pm	-
Monday	10:10 am	10:24 pm	-
Tuesday	10:51 am	11:15 pm	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@ saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 19, 2017

UA6399

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				
UA6394 UA6392 UA6391 UA6390 UA6398	4:15am 8:40am 1:30pm 2:20pm 6:05pm	5:05am 9:30am 3:10pm 3:10pm 6:55pm	Daily Daily 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota 2, 3, 6 Daily	
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)	

1:30pm 2:05pm UA6391 1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL297 4:20pm 7:15pm Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)										
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7							
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4. 5							

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)										
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily							
0Z626	2:10am	6:00am	1							
0Z626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7							
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7							
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily							
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily							

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648 5:40am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

ID396 7:30am 12:00pm 4:50pm 10:00pm JD396

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646 4:20am 7:30am

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764 1:30am 6:35am 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) 0Z626/701 2:10am 10:55am 1 via ICN 0Z626/701 2:50am 10:55am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA6394/191 4:15am 9:00am 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM UA6394/PR111 4:15am 8:10am 7 via GUM 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM UA6394/PR111 4:15am 9:20am UA6398/183 6:05pm 9:40pm 2, 5 via GUM

UA6398/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 6:05pm 11:50pm UA6398/193 2, 5 via GUM-ROR SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) 1:50am 5:15am

0Z626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA6393 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA6395 7:15am 8:05am 1, 4, 5, 7 UA6391 12:10pm 1:00pm UA6390 2, 3, 6 via Rota 12:10pm 1:50pm UA6397 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily

Daily

8:30pm 9:20pm

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

12:10pm 12:45pm UA6390 2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

10:30am 3:05pm Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

9:00pm 2:10am+1 4 7C3452 9:05pm 2:10am+1 3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
0Z625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
0Z625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
703404	10·10nm	3.40am + 1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

10:20pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

ID395 8:25am 3:30pm 9:55pm 5:00am+1 7 JD395

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1,5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

4:25pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN UA182/6395 12:40am 8:05am 3, 6 via GUM

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

0Z/22/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via IC
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN T FLIGHT # 1301 1302 1303	DEPARTURE 7:30AM 11:30AM 4:00PM	ARRIVAL 8:00AM 12:00PM 4:30PM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily	1204 1205 1206 1207 1208 1209	10:00AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 1:00PM 2:00PM 3:00PM	10:15AM 11:15AM 12:15PM 1:15PM 2:15PM 3:15PM	Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily
ROTA TO FLIGHT # 3101 3102	DEPARTURE 8:15AM 1:45PM	ARRIVAL 8:45AM 2:15PM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily	1210 1211 1212 TINIAN T	4:00PM 5:00PM 6:00PM	4:15PM 5:15PM 6:15PM	Daily Daily Daily
3103 ROTA TO	4:45PM OGUAM DEPARTURE	5:15PM ARRIVAL	Daily	FLIGHT # 2102 2103	DEPARTURE 7:30AM 8:30AM	ARRIVAL 7:45AM 8:45AM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily
3401 GUAM TO	12:15PM O ROTA	12:45PM	FREQUENCY Daily	2104 2105 2106	9:30AM 10:30AM 11:30AM	9:45AM 10:45AM 11:45AM	Daily Daily Daily
FLIGHT # 4301 SAIPAN	1:00PM TO TINIAN	ARRIVAL 1:30PM	FREQUENCY Daily	2107 2108 2109 2110	12:30PM 1:30PM 2:30PM 3:30PM	12:45PM 1:45PM 2:45PM 3:45PM	Daily Daily Daily Daily
FLIGHT # 1201 1202 1203	DEPARTURE 7:00AM 8:00AM 9:00AM	ARRIVAL 7:15AM 8:15AM 9:15AM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily	2111 2112 2113	4:30PM 5:30PM 6:30PM	4:45PM 5:45PM 6:45PM	Daily Daily Daily

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The strangulation of Saipan

"Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive."

—C.S. Lewis

Editor's Note: The following is being published in two parts due to its length.

Having observed and mulled the convoluted and politically driven mixed marriage between the mighty United States and the small and evolving Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, I think back to 1978 when I escaped to Saipan from the growing federal grasp upon my home state of California.

In the CNMI's own battle with the U.S. over the CW issue, you would think the federal government would back off since the feds already has too many politically charged problems in the U.S. mainland: rebellious anti-Trump states, out-of-control crime in major cities, crazed zealots on both sides of the political fence (Black Lives Matter versus White Lives Maybe Matter), possible nuclear conflagration with a pudgy midget with a goofy haircut, the stupefying Kardashian "Kult" effect, and the seemingly endless line of illegal aliens who scamper across the U.S. border.

But no, the U.S. federal government, which, among other things, seems to possess a huge blind eye toward the massive illegal population in the U.S. mainland, has to travel all the way to Saipan on taxpayers' money and exert the wrath of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and its seemingly inept U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, which can't even control its own U.S. backyard borders and the numerous illegal citizenship problems. Instead, they seem hell-bent in strangulating a small and much different island socio-economic culture with its federal heavy-handedness and a fetish for self-aggrandizing political power trips.

The CNMI Department of Labor recently released troubling news that 10 more Saipan companies were moronically denied their CW employee renewals by USCIS. Unbeknownst to certain USCIS feeble-minded uncivil servants, these CW denials cause adverse effects on the CNMI: major payroll reductions and less employee spending and tax and revenue losses; debilitating impairments to business operations; and possible company closures that ironically cause job terminations of U.S. citizens. Granted, the feds have done a decent job assisting our Commonwealth Health Center, Public School System, Northern Marianas College, etc., with federal grants and advisory support. But the feds mostly stay out of the way of these CNMI agencies that do a reasonable job spending the federal bucks. The U.S. government just requires follow-up reports justifying the spending of the federal money and everybody seems happy.

On the other hand, to give an example of the dubious DHS in action, I recently watched on the internet a TV story about the new border wall that is being built between Mexico and the adjacent U.S southern states. While the TV reporter was interviewing the government and/or private sector representative who was bragging about the ongoing construction of the new wall prototypes and its barrier capabilities, the cameraman began filming several "illegals/tourists" climbing over the walls in the background and casually strolling into the U.S. The TV reporter was stunned and asked the wall representative what was going on. The wall guy seemed oblivious and acted like this was an everyday activity. So why can't the DHS/USCIS out here on our islands just relax on the beach with their taxpayers' drink in hand, and let the CNMI evolve and prosper island-style.

I understand the argument that CNMI/U.S. residents must be given priority for CNMI jobs, but let's get real. After many years of managing several CNMI companies, and being a PSS high school principal and a NMC director of vocational training for several years, I have learned some firsthand experience about the intricate labor situations here in the CNMI.

First, I don't believe in the denigrating knock on local people that they are lazy and don't show up to work on a regular basis. If given the proper training and self-confidence, I found anyone can hold a job and be successful. The problem is that most locals I trained, and the many others who took advantage of the CNMI's limited training opportunities, eventually felt confident enough to head to where their lives had more opportunities and where the really good-paying jobs are located—in the U.S. mainland. A good percentage of the small amount of remaining locals do work at island businesses, and others have government jobs and, unfortunately, the CNMI has a certain group of infamous locals who think that making a living is robbing tourists and shoplifting at the "I Love Saipan" store and living at home.

With these considerations in mind, the CNMI has had periodic labor shortages of skilled workers ever since I've been here, and our struggling CW labor program is presently very important to the CNMI's rebounding tourism and other related industries, including gaming and island services.

But back to those feisty USCIS guys and their tyrannical policies being enforced on the CNMI community in the name of misguided "good" that is being ominously directed toward: 1) our oppressed Saipan businesses; 2) our beleaguered and needed CW workers, 3) our local government that loses significant amounts of taxes and revenues; and 4) our community victims who are affected by the lack of business services and tax-related government services.

It is pretty obvious that this oppression is caused by some clueless and ambivalent feds, thinking that CNMI officials and island business people are totally incapable of providing jobs and security for their own residents. Sure, CNMI officials aren't the greatest community providers in the universe, but there are available jobs for interested local residents with entry-level skills.

However, the tremendous need for many more skilled CW workers (including construction workers!) behooves our local officials to show some island intestinal fortitude against the shortsighted and obstructionist USCIS. What could be the real reason for this federal fiasco? Is it the typical tyrannical example of big brainless government with its small-minded management

style? Is it federal retaliation for not getting their way on Tinian concerning the military issue? Who fricking knows in today's world of fake news and rumor mongering?

For the sake of our small islands' evolving survival and for the humane treatment of our hard-working CWs, why doesn't the CNMI establish its own number of allowable CWs who are needed in the CNMI? To this end the CNMI should create its own "sanctuary islands" for our law-abiding CWs and for the betterment of all our island residents—young and old.

In related news, the mainland feds are amazingly allowing sanctuary cities and even the sanctuary state of California to create their own system of who can stay and who can't.

To be continued.

Dr. Jack Angello

via emai

U.S. resident (until the feds read this and maybe deport me, too)



Chamber to hold Masquerade Gala on Jan. 27

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its Business Person of the Year Masquerade Gala on Jan. 27, from 6pm to 9pm at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

This year, the Chamber event will refocus on the Business Person of the Year nominees. The six nominees are Velma Palacios of IT&E, Tyrell Pauling of Hyatt Regency Saipan, Yoshihito Shibahata of Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and Ivan Quichocho of TanHoldings.

The event will also witness the installation of the Chamber board of directors.

The gala used to be called the Chamber's "Installation Dinner." This year, the theme for the evening is masquerade; some masks will be available for photo taking. *(PR)*

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Red Cross Walkathon on April 14

The American Red Cross is excited to announce that its 32nd Walkathon will be held on Saturday, April 14, in Susupe, and will again feature a community partner fair, games for children, refreshments and lots of fun and excitement. Please mark your calendar and look for pledge forms in the coming weeks. For more information about the walkathon, or how to volunteer call 234-3459. (*PR*)

PH passport releasing

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, will be releasing the passports of

those who renewed their passports last Nov. 14, 15, and 16, 2017. You can pick up your passports at Finasisu Terraces Apartment Bldg. D, second floor, on top of the Mini-Mart Store, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm (12pm-1pm break time). Please bring your old passport and receipt. For any inquiry or details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293. *(PR)*

Learn how to set up an LLC or partnership

The CNMI Small Business Development Center will be offering a free business seminar on how to set up an LLC or partnership. The seminar will be held at the Commonwealth Development Authority boardroom on Tuesday, Jan. 30, from 8:30am to 9:30am. It will be presented

by lawyer Michael Dotts. This seminar is supported by the CNMI Department of Commerce and CDA. To register, contact the SBDC office at (670) 664-3018 or go online at http://pisb-dcn.ecenterdirect.com/events. (PR)

Military training at Warning Area 517, FDM

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Jan. 19, from 11am to 3pm. It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators, monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. (*PR*)



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950 TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315



As of January 19, 2018 NOTICE OF APPLICATION

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	ТҮРЕ	STATUS
1. Island Marine Sports, Inc.	12/27/2017 SLRm-99-X-279	Marine Sports Renewal Parasailing	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved - 1/5/2018
2. DCRM-Planning & CNMI Public School System - Tanapag Middle School	12/29/2017 SWm-2018-X-030	Mangrove Revegetation Outreach	Tanapag, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangroves	Approved - 1/5/2018
3. Phoenix Enterprises Inc. dba Phoenix Marine Sports	1/5/2018 SLRm-2015-X-036	Marine Sports Renewal Snorkeling & Kayaking	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
4. CNS, Inc.	1/5/2018 SS/LR-99-X-07	Marine Sports Renewal Jetski	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
5. Windsurfing Saipan, Inc. dba Sea Wind Marine Sports Club	1/11/2018 SLR-2018-X-031	36th Micronesian Boardsailing Open Regatta	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
6. Phoenix Enterprises Inc. dba Phoenix Marine Sports	1/16/2018 SLR-2018-X-032	Marine Sports New Sailing Tour	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
7. Marianas Visitor's Authority	1/16/2018 TS-2018-X-01	Temporary wooden booths for Pika Festival	Tachogna Beach, Tinian	Shoreline	Approved - 1/17/2018
8. Hafadai Ocean Edventures, LLC	1/17/2018 SLR-2018-X-033	Marine Sports New Snorkeling & Sailing Tour	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
9. MP Holdings, LLC dba Saipan Vegas E-Gaming, Hotel, & Golf	8/25/2017 SMS-2017-X-098	Saipan Vegas E-Gaming facility, 50 unit hotel, and golf resort	Chalan Laulau, Saipan	Major Siting	Approved - 1/11/2018
10. Yenny Tom dba Marianas Management Corporation	10/12/2017 SMS-2018-X-008	Gualo Rai Office Park: 2 commercial buildings and the federal courthouse	Gualo Rai, Saipan	Major Siting	Approved - 1/11/2018
11. Arcadia Partners, LLC	11/6/2017 SMS-2018-X-017	Gualo Rai Townhouses: 8 townhouses with 16 parking stalls	Gualo Rai, Saipan	Major Siting	Approved - 1/11/2018
12. Himawari Saipan Inc.	8/25/2017 SMS-2017-X-091	Construction of additional 50 units and commercial building expansion	Garapan, Saipan	Major Siting	Approved - 1/18/2018
13. Hui Tao Tsang dba Royal View Hotel	10/19/2017 SMS-2018-X-011	Construction of 5-story hotel with 51 units	Garapan, Saipan	Major Siting	Approved - 1/18/2018

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations require all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

) NOTICE TO CLAIMANTS AND In Re General Order) ORDER TO APPEAR

THE COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY has in its possession certain third party funds, which have remained unclaimed for more than one year. According to court records, the following people may be entitled to have funds returned to

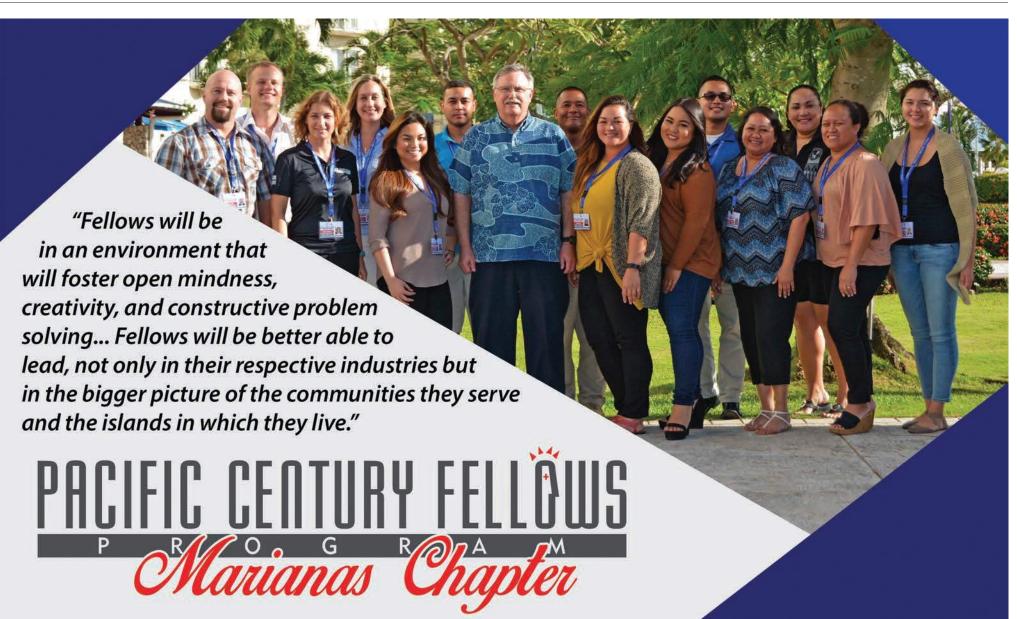
court records, the following	g people may be entitled to have	
them Name	Case Name	Case Number
1. Yong Jong Pak	Triple J Saipan, Inc v. Yong Jong Pak	CV-00-0513
2. Young Chung Kim	Gregoria C. Cabrera v. Young C. Kim	CV-02-0359
3. Angela Maui	First Hawaiian Bank, a Hawaii Banking Corp. v. Dominic Hideo	CV-03-0078
4. Lvdia L. Ada	CNMI v. Joseph C. Aldan	CR-03-0210
5. Zandra Silosa Quilala	CNMI v Waltes Tom Harry	CR-03-0266
6. Antipas Rupurei	CNMI v. Charles L. Rupurei	CR-04-0102
7. Manuela A. Babauta	CNMI v. Jennifer Quitugua Camacho	CR-07-0058
8. Young Soo Ha	CNMI v. Hyoung Keun Oh	CR-07-0221
9. Yunlong Jin	CNMI v. Shu Jin	CR-08-0024
10. Yin Juan Sheng	CNMI v. Yin Juan Sheng	CR-09-0015
11. Viola Alepeyo	CNMI v. Jawn Alepuyo Joyner	CR-09-0127
12. Bender J. Castro	CNMI v. Bender J. Castro	TR-01-08006
13. Michael L. Garong	CNMI v. Michael L. Garong	TR-02-01317
14. Zhenju Yang & Osman Gani	CNMI v. Juan Sanchez	TR-03-04734
15. Angelita Maniacup	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-01-0676
16. Mary Grace C. Estella	v. Mervin Lislie Umbao AG and Division of Immigration	CV-02-0255
10. Mary arabo of Estolia	v. Mary Grace C. Estella	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
17, Lino Jupiter G. Araneta	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-02-0589
·	v. Lino Araneta	
18. You, Qiuxiang	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-02-0646
	v. You, Qiuxiang	
19. Weichen Huang	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-04-0454
00 111 111 11	v. Weichen Huang	01/04/04/00
20. Wang, Weidong	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-04-0466
21. Sung Hun Son	v. Wang, Weidong AG and Division of Immigration	CV-04-0474
21. July Hull John	v. Park, Kyung Hee	01-04-0414
	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-04-0475
	v. Yang, Zhong Wei	
	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-04-0476
	v. Bian, Meiyu	
22. Yu Feng Jia Cepeda	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-05-0338
	v. Ren, Yong Hu	
23. Rosalie Serrano Cano	AG and Division of Immigration	CV-05-0387
	v. Maita Sevilla	
24. Marrilyn Emul Santos	CNMI v. Romeo Masa	CR-03-0075
25. Rong Hu Zhao	CNMI v. Rong Long Zhao	CR-04-0272
26. Xia Sheng	CNMI v. Xiao Ru Liu	CR-04-0272
27. Magdalena S. Naputi	CNMI v. Francisco Sablan Naputi	CR-01-0186

The aforementioned parties shall have until Friday, April 20, 2018 to make a claim with the Judiciary for the return of these funds. In order to im, parties must complete a form, which is available at the Cler of Court's office. Upon completion, parties shall submit the original and two photocopies of the form, together with two photocopies of a valid passport and/or government-issued photo identification, to the Clerk of Court located at Door Number 1 of the Guma Hustisia, limwaal Aweewe on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. Claims must be submitted to the Clerk of Court and may be brought from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday of each week. Any funds belonging to the parties named above that remain unclaimed after Friday, April 20, 2018 may be forfeited and turned over to the Commonwealth General Fund. On April 27, 2018 all parties named above shall appear before Associate Judge Joseph Camacho in Courtroom 220 at 10:00 a.m. and await the call of his or her claim by case number and captioned parties. Parties must bring a copy of their claim form with them when appearing for this court proceeding.

ENTERED Oct 20 , 2017.

/s/_____ROBERTO C. NARAJA
Presiding Judge

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 **19**



Bright minds brought together can make a world of difference. With the challenges we face in our CNMI, there has never been a greater need for leaders to start working better together.

REQUIREMENTS:

• Must be between the ages of 25-45

- Must reside in the CNMI for at least 1 year
- Submit completed application
- Provide two (2) letters of recommendation
- Must attend opening weekend retreat
- Must meet minimum attendance requirement

The Pacific Century
Fellows Marianas Chapter
is a non-profit, leadership
development program that runs for
about one year incorporating periodic
sessions covering current issues
facing the Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana Islands.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- January 18-February 23, 2018: Application Period
- March 3, 2018: Selection Saturday (Mandatory)
- March 10-11, 2018: Opening Weekend Retreat (Mandatory)

APPLY NOW!

For more information and to downloard an application, please visit us at **www.pcf-marianas.com** or contact Ms. Mel Naputi at (670) 235-0560 ext. 118.

20 FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

'Very strong' Democratic sentiment to oppose GOP budget bill

Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer said Wednesday there's "very, very strong" sentiment among Democrats in the chamber to oppose GOP-drafted legislation to keep the government's doors open, comments that could indicate the chances are increasing that the government could shut down at midnight Friday night.

Democrats' votes are needed to advance the stopgap measure through the Senate, but they have been rebuffed in their demands to add protections against deportation for younger immigrants who were brought to the country illegally as children.

"The overwhelming number in our caucus have said they don't like this deal and they believe if we kick the can down the road this time we'll be back where we started from next time," Schumer said. "So there's very, very strong support not to go along with their deal."

Talks among a bipartisan group of leaders of both the House and Senate convened Wednesday, but participants reported little progress.

"Good will but no progress," said Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., a negotiator but one whose loyalties lie chiefly

with separate compromise legislation on the so-called "Dreamer" immigrants that he's co-authored with Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., and Cory Gardner, R-Colo., some of the Senate's most dovish Republicans on immigration.

House GOP leaders unveiled the spending bill Tuesday night, sweetening it with a six-year renewal of the popular Children's Health Insurance Program and with provisions to temporarily suspend three "Obamacare" taxes, including a tax on generous "Cadillac" health plans.

Some conservatives op-

pose the short-term spending House this week. Vote counbill and said GOP leaders lacked the votes to pass it. House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., declined to say if he had enough Republican support to push it through the

ters gauged GOP support Wednesday in advance of a vote planned for Thursday.

Ryan said it was "baffling" why Democrats would oppose the spending measure, noting

it contains money for the military and the widely supported children's health insurance program. Republicans are hoping the money for children will pressure some Democrats to back the overall bill.

Trump claims credit for what is still mostly Obama's economy

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump relentlessly congratulates himself for the healthy state of the U.S. economy, with its steady growth, low unemployment, busier factories and confident consumers.

But in the year since Trump's inauguration, most analysts tend to agree on this: The economy remains essentially the same sturdy one he inherited from Barack Obama.

Growth has picked up, but it's not yet clear if it can sustain a faster expansion. Hiring and wage growth actually slowed slightly from Obama's last year in office. Consumers and businesses are much more optimistic, but their spending has yet to move meaningfully higher.

"I don't see any noticeable break over the past year," said Michael Strain,

an economist at the conservative American Enterprise Institute. "We tend to overstate the degree to which the president has the ability to control the economy."

The U.S. public appears to have a similar view, according to a Quinnipiac University poll last week. It found that two-thirds of American voters say the economy is "excellent" or "good," the highest since the poll started asking about the economy in 2001.

Yet 49 percent of respondents credited Obama for the economy's health, compared with 40 percent who credited Trump.

Trump's successful push for income and corporate tax cuts and his steps to loosen regulations have helped drive a surging stock market rally fueled by the prospect of higher

corporate profits. And most economists are optimistic that growth will continue at a solid pace this year.

"We have created more than 2 million new jobs since the election," Trump said last week in Nashville, Tennessee. "Economic growth has surged past 3 percent, something that wasn't supposed to happen for a long time. We're way ahead of schedule. Unemployment is at a 17-year low."

Those trends aren't very different from what came before. Employers added more jobs in Obama's last year in office—2.2 million in 2016 and nearly 3 million in 2014. Economic growth did top 3 percent at an annual rate during the second and third quarters of 2017. But it had surged above 4 percent in the second and third quarters of 2014.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-18-IFB-008

ROTA ROUTE 10 HAZARD ELIMINATION PROJECT PROJECT NO. CM-NH-0010 (003)

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for the Rota Route 10 Hazard Elimination Project, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after <u>January 19, 2018</u> at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

- Breach of Ethical Standard
 Gratuities. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approvad, disapprovad, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, daim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefore NMIAC Section 70–30.3-725 (a)
 - proposal therefor. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725 (a)

 Kickbacks. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontractor or order.
 - **MMIAC 70-30.3-725 (b)

 **Contingent fees. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. NMIAC 70-30.3-730

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on <u>February 8, 2018 9:00 a.m.</u> local time at the Mayor's Office Conference Room, **Rota**. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on <u>February 28, 2018 to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division</u>, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid. The Contracting Officer (CO) may upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the Co chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW-18-IFB-008". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, March 6, 2018. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, March 6, 2018, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670, 664–1515, or via e-mail to procurement*) procurement botated outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than March 6, 2018 and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than March 15, 2018. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, March 19, 2018. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on March 6, 2018.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CMMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations \$70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected

is lated southing.

A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and

b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only

- Cash
 US Gov't Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

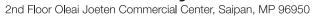
Performance time for completion of this project is **Two Hundred Seventy (270) working days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the Standard Specifications for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway projects, FP-03.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

HERMAN S. SABLAN Director of Procure



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works





<u>ADDENDUM NO. 1</u> **January 17, 2018**

DPW/COTA-18-IFB-004; Construction of the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) Administrative **Building and Maintenance Facility**

- 1. General: The following revisions, additions, corrections, and/or clarifications to the specifications and drawings shall apply to the work affected thereby. Careful note of this Addendum shall be taken by the bidder/contractor, and all trades affected shall be fully advised of the information contained herein. In the event of a conflict between drawings, specifications and this Addendum, the contents of this Addendum shall govern. All further conflicts in the work resulting from, or caused by, the contents of this Addendum must be brought to the attention of the Contracting Officer for resolution. Failure to acknowledge this bid Addendum in accordance with instructions may subject your Proposal to rejection on the affected item(s)/service(s).
- 2. Sealed bids must be marked "DPW/COTA-18-IFB-004." For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two (2) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive, Saipan MP 96950 no later than 10:00 a.m., January 18, 2018 is changed to read 10:00 a.m., local time February 7, 2018.
- 3. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, February 7, 2018 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com_is changed to read 10:00 a.m., local time, February 16, 2018.
- 4. Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive, Saipan at 10:00 a.m., local time, February 21, 2018 is changed to read 10:00 a.m., local time, February 21, 2018. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI. bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on February 16, 2018 is changed to read 10:00 a.m., local time, February 7, 2018.

All other requirements of the Invitation to Bid the project package shall remain as stated.

Peter P. Camacho Acting Secretary of Public Works END OF ADDENDUM NO. 1

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 **21** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nation

Haitians face hurdles after protected status renewal delays

BOSTON (AP)—Thousands of Haitian immigrants living in the U.S. legally will face employment and travel hurdles because President Donald Trump's administration delayed the process of re-registering those with temporary protected status, Haitian community leaders and immigrant activists say.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will release details Thursday about the next steps for the 60,000 Haitians with the special status, an agency spokeswoman told The Associated Press.

But the information comes too late to help the thousands of Haitians who hold immigration documents that show their legal and work status expiring Monday, said immigrants and advocates, some of whom wondered—in light of the president's recent remarks about Haiti - if the bureaucratic slowdown was deliberate.

"They told me that if I don't bring the work papers, they will send me home because it is the law. You have to have work papers. I am under pressure," said Edelyne Jean, a 35-year-old nursing assistant

in Coral Springs, Florida, who supports four younger siblings still in Haiti. "They say that if I don't bring anything new by Jan. 22 or the 23rd at the most, I am jobless."

Haitian workers like Jean will be left at the mercy of employers, who could simply choose to let them go or hire someone else rather than wait for a process that could take months, says Rev. Dieufort Fleurissaint, chairman of Haitian Americans United, a Boston-based community group.

"They're putting a lot of people in a very, very difficult situation," he said of federal officials. "Employers are not going to take time to understand this. People will be in limbo come Monday.'

Haitians were granted temporary protected status to live and work in the U.S. after a devastating earthquake struck their Caribbean homeland in 2010 The status has been renewed a number of times over the past seven years, to the chagrin of critics who say the humanitarian measure was never meant to allow immigrants to establish roots in the U.S.

The Trump administration

Haitians living under the temporary status would have until July 2019 to get their affairs in order and return home.

The problem is that officials haven't told people with that status how to go about renew-

announced in November that ing it. Other groups eligible for similar status have received more lead time to re-register; the administration announced extensions for Nicaraguans and Hondurans last month and has already issued renewal guidelines for them.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services wasn't able to release details about the reregistration process for Haitians sooner because officials had to work out the work authorization language, among other things.

But Thursday's announcement will automatically extend the work permits for Haitians on temporary protected status through July, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services spokeswoman Sharon Scheidhauer said.

Lawmakers ask if states or feds should alert about missiles

HONOLULU (AP)—Nearly 40 terrifying minutes passed between the time Hawaii officials fired off a bogus alert about an incoming missile over the weekend and the moment the notice was canceled

The state was slow to contain the situation, waiting 23 minutes to call officials with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to get unnecessary approval to send a retraction. That call lasted for about one minute, a state emergency official Wednesday, but residents and visitors still didn't receive the corrected alert until about 14 minutes later.

confusion-and The panic—have raised questions about whether any state should be solely responsible for notifying the public of such an event-especially as Washington and North Korea trade insults and threats.

Hawaii is the only state in the nation with a preprogrammed alert that can be quickly sent to wireless devices if a ballistic missile is heading toward the U.S. FEMA said Hawaii did not require its approval to cancel the alert on Saturday.

U.S. Reps. Colleen Hanabusa and Tulsi Gabbard, both of Hawaii, have asked the House Armed Services Committee to hold a hearing on the issue.

They said in a letter to the committee Tuesday that it's understandable for states to have primary jurisdiction over warnings for floods, hurricanes and other natural

disasters.

"However, when it comes to matters of national security, including whether a ballistic missile has been launched against the United States, one must question whether any state emergency management agency is best suited for that role," the letter says.

The debate comes as North Korea claims it is testing weapons that could deliver a nuclear-tipped ballistic missile to Hawaii, Guam and even the U.S. mainland.

The two networks that were activated in Hawaii were the Wireless Emergency Alert and the Emergency Alert System, both of which use a federal system to send messages to people in certain geographic areas.

The systems can be used by

state and federal agencies for weather events, natural disasters, law enforcement notifications and alerts issued by the president.

Signal carriers allow people to block alerts from state and law enforcement agencies, but not those issued by the president.

"The decision to send a national alert directly to the public rests with the president," FEMA spokeswoman Jenny Burke told The Associated Press in an email.

FEMA has the ability to send alerts to targeted audiences but has not yet taken on that responsibility, said Daniel Gonzales, a senior scientist at RAND Corp. who was contracted by Homeland Security to study the Wireless Emergency Alert.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-18-009

ALTERNATIVE POTABLE DRINKING WATER DISINFECTION SYSTEM INSTALLATION

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Alternative Potable Drinking Water Disinfection System Installation Project in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

General Description: This work consists of installation of alternative potable drinking water disinfection systems at five (5) potable drinking water disinfection points in the CNMI, one (1) on the island of Rota, one (1) on the island of Tinian, and three (3) on the island of Saipan. These systems will be evaluated as part of an expanded, one-year pilot-study of alternatives to chlorine gas disinfection. The contractor will be responsible for installation of the automated disinfection systems as well as provision of disinfectant products and any other necessary consumables during the one-year contract period.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$50.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-service will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-18-009, Alternative Potable Drinking Water Disinfection System Installation" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Bos 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than February 6, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST). Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an

Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 22, 2018 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgow.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO Executive Director MANNY B. SABLAN



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315 www.crm.gov.mp



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PALM RESORT HOTEL SMS-2018-X-026

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing for the proposed construction of the Palms Resort Hotel project.

The Saipan Hua Mei Development Limited Corporation is proposing to construct the Palm Resort Hotel, a three-story hotel with forty-seven (47) rooms and 17 parking stalls within the tourist district in Garapan, Saipan. The project is situated on Lot No. 001 D 25 with an area of about 597 square meters. The construction cost of the project is approximately \$1.2 million. The estimated timeframe for the completion of this project is about 10 to 12 months.

The public hearing for this project is scheduled on Thursday, January 25, 2018, at the BECQ Main Conference Room, 2nd Floor in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan. The time for this public hearing is changed to 5PM.

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mailed to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, Caller Box 10007 or by fax at 664-8315. The project files are open for review and comments during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M, Monday through Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application records and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed projects. Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Palm Resort Hotel.

/s/ Janice E. Castro

Director

Division of Coastal Resources Management

22 FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Asia

Rival Koreas agree to form first unified Olympic team

SEOUL, South (AP)—The rival Koreas agreed Wednesday to form their first unified Olympic team and have their athletes parade together for the first time in 11 years during the opening ceremony of next month's Winter Olympics in South Korea, officials said.

The agreements still require approval from the International Olympic Committee. But they are the most prominent steps toward rapprochement achieved by the Koreas since they recently began exploring cooperation during the Olympics following a year of heightened tension over the North's nuclear weapons program.

During their third day of talks at the border in about a week, senior officials reached a package of agreements, including fielding a joint women's ice hockey team and marching together under a blue and white "unification flag" depicting their



In this Sept. 29, 2002 file photo, athletes from North and South Korea march together, led by a unification flag, during an opening ceremony for the 14th Asian Games in Busan, South Korea.

peninsula in the opening ceremony, Seoul's Unification Ministry said.

A joint statement distributed by the ministry said the North Korean Olympic delegation will travel to South Korea do demonstration team, jour-

across their heavily fortified land border before the Feb. 9-25 Pyeongchang Games. It said the delegation will include a 230-member cheering group, a 30-member taekwonnalists, athletes and officials. Ahead of the Olympics, the

Koreas will hold a joint cultural event at the North's scenic Diamond Mountain and have non-Olympic skiers train together at the North's Masik ski

Politics weighs heavily on foreign businesses in China

BELJING (AP)—Politics weighs more heavily on foreign companies in China than it has in nearly three decades.

The latest flashpoint was Beijing's fury last week at hotel keeper Marriott and other companies that labeled self-ruled Taiwan a country on websites or customer materials. But companies face pressure on many sides from President Xi Jinping's more nationalistic stance and twin campaigns to tighten the ruling Communist Party's political control and have it play a direct role in business.

Businesspeople complain their operations are being hampered by internet disruptions due to Beijing's latest campaign since last year to tighten censorship of what the Chinese public sees online. They face pressure to promote

initiatives such as helping potential Chinese rivals develop technology in fields including electric cars.

Last year, Beijing destroyed South Korean retailer Lotte's business in China after the company sold land to the Seoul government to install an anti-missile system Chinese leaders opposed.

Most disturbing for companies: Beijing is pressing them to restructure joint ventures with Chinese partners to give the ruling party a formal voice in hiring, investment and other decisions.

"Xi Jinping has taken politics to a heightened level," said James Zimmerman, managing partner in Beijing for law firm Sheppard Mullin and a former chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce in China, in an email.

resort, according to the statement. It said the North also plans to send a 150-strong delegation to the Paralympics in March. The North earlier said it would send a 140-member art troupe.

The agreements are highly symbolic and emotional. But it's still not clear how many North Korean athletes will come to Pyeongchang because none are currently qualified. South Korean media have predicted only up to 10 North Korean athletes will end up being cov-

ered by an additional quota from the IOC.

A pair of North Korean figure skaters qualified for this year's Olympics, but the country missed a deadline to confirm their participation. The IOC said recently it has "kept the door open" for North Korea to take part in the games. IOC officials are to meet with sports and government officials from the two Koreas and officials from the Pyeongchang organizing committee in Switzerland on Saturday.

Australia PM Turnbull in Japan for economic, security talks

TOKYO (AP)—Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull kicked off his oneday visit to Japan with an excursion to a Japanese military training camp with his Japanese counterpart Thursday, showcasing close ties amid missile and nuclear threat from North Korea.

Turnbull and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe viewed a PAC-3 missile interceptor at a Japan Ground Self-Defense Force camp in Funabashi city, just outside Tokyo. The two leaders also got inside a Bushmaster armored vehicle, which was developed in Australia and adopted by Japan's military in 2014.

Turnbull told reporters the visit was a reminder of the big threats in the region, "terrorism on the one hand, and, of course, the reckless regime in North Korea on the other." He added that his country and Japan work for open markets and free trade, which "is underpinned by security."

Japan and Australia have been deepening their defense cooperation as tensions rise over North Korea's nuclear and missile development and China's expansion in the Pacific.

The two countries are considering a visiting forces agreement to further expand their military cooperation.

Turnbull is scheduled to attend a special session of Japan's national security council and have talks and dinner with Abe before leaving Japan. Turnbull is also set to speak to business leaders.



Northern Marianas College

Procurement & Property Management Office P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A. Tel: (670) 237-6824 ext. 23/22 Fax: (670) 235-7601

INVITATION FOR BIDS NMC IFB 18-003

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF NEW COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR CREES SAIPAN, ROTA AND TINIAN STATIONS

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement and delivery of NEW COMPUTER SYSTEMS for CREES Saipan, Rota and Tinian.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2017 between the hours of 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

For Bidder located outside of the CNMI may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., JANUARY 22, 2018, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg, L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. You may request a copy of the NMC IFB 18-003 packet via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through the USDA-NIFA authorized under the Hatch Act, as nded Áugust 11, 1955, award # 2016-31100 (Regular).

In accordance with Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bid offers for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho Procurement & Property Manager

A Land Grant Institution accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and by The Senior Commission for Colleges and Universities of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MVA-RFP-18-2008

For: HAPPY CHILDREN IN PARADISE CAMPAIGN **20th ANNIVERSARY SAIPAN-DA BACKPACKS**

Submission /Closing Date:

January 22, 2018

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to:

Marianas Visitors Authority Procurement Office San Jose Professional Building Beach Rd., San Jose P.O. Box 500861 Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the Scope of Work on or after **December 18, 2017, at the** Marianas Visitors Authority Office, San Jose Professional Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Proposals submitted from individuals outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or certified courier services by January 22, 2018, and must be received within seven (7) working days of that date. Proposers from outside the Commonwealth must notify the MVA/ Ms. Brenda Repeki in writing of their intent to submit a proposal in order to receive the additional seven (7) days for the receipt of the actual Proposal Documents. Participants outside the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands must submit a Notice of Intent by any mode of written communication including facsimile at+1-670-664-3237 or email to brepeki@mymarianas.com, and must be received by 5 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on January 22, 2018.

All questions regarding this RFP must be sent to Ms. Brenda Repeki at brepeki@mymarianas.com or faxed to +1-670-664-3237, no later than 5 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on January 5, 2018.

/s/ Christopher J. Nelson Acting Chairperson, Board of Directors /s/ Christopher A. Concepcion Managing Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-18-2009

For: Local Publication and Media Services

Submission /Closing Date:

February 23, 2018 3:00 p.m.

Saipan, MP 96950

Submit sealed proposals to:

Marianas Visitors Authority Procurement Office San Jose Professional Building Beach Rd., San Jose P.O. Box 500861

Interested parties may pick up the Scope of Work on or after January 16, 2018, at the Marianas Visitors Authority Office, San Jose Professional Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Proposals submitted from individuals outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or certified courier services by February 23, 2018, and must be received within seven (7) working days of that date. Proposers from outside the Commonwealth must notify the MVA/ Mr. David B. Muna in writing of their intent to submit a proposal in order to receive the additional seven (7) days for the receipt of the actual Proposal Documents. Participants outside the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands must submit a Notice of Intent by any mode of written communication including facsimile at+1-670-664-3237 or email to dmuna@mymarianas.com, and must be received by 5 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on February 23, 2018.

All questions regarding this RFP must be sent to Mr. David B. Muna at dmuna@mymarianas.com or faxed to +1-670-664-3237, no later than 5 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on February 09, 2018.

/s/ Gloria C. Cavanagh Chairperson, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher A. Concepcion Managing Director

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 **23**

World

Pope wraps up Chile stop with visit to migrants, on to Peru

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)— Pope Francis wraps up his Chile visit Thursday by meeting with members of the South American nation's booming immigrant community, who are flocking to the region's strongest and most stable economy but are increasingly the focus of political and social discontent.

After an emotional meeting with Chile's Mapuche indigenous in the south Wednesday, Francis is going to the northern city of Iquique, which is home to nearly two dozen migrant slums. He plans to celebrate Mass there before heading to Peru for the final leg of his two-nation trip.

Francis has long called for migrant growth of any councountries to welcome migrants and refugees fleeing war, drought or hardship—a message that often falls on deaf ears in Europe, where the migrant crisis has been a driving factor on politics for years.

Upon his arrival in Chile, Francis said the country's future lies in its ability to listen, including "to the migrants who knock on the doors of this country in search of a better life, but also with the strength and the hope of helping to build a better life for all."

Even though the numbers are comparatively small, Chile had the fastest annual rate of try in Latin American between 2010 and 2015, according to U.N. and church statistics.

Most of the newcomers are Haitians, who often face language barriers that limit their job prospects. While Chile hasn't experienced the antiimmigrant backlash seen in the U.S. and Europe, the incoming conservative government of President Sebastian Pinera is looking to crack down.

Pinera, who previously was president in 2010-14, said during his election campaign that Chile would remain welcoming to migrants who follow the law and aim to be productive members of society.

"We want to shut the doors to drug trafficking, contraband that is often associated with it and, above all, we want people who come to Chile to respect our law," Pinera told lo-

cal ADN radio in October. Immigration groups say they fear a big change will follow when Pinera takes power

in March from President Mi-

chelle Bachelet. On Wednesday, Francis engaged in one of his most anticipated events: celebrating Mass for Mapuche amid

a spate of unprecedented violence timed to his visit. Nearly a dozen churches and three helicopters were torched recently.

In his homily in the heart of Chile's **Pope Francis** restive Araucania

> region, Francis took both Mapuche radicals responsible for the violence and the government to task. He said violence must end and the government must do more than just negotiate "elegant" but ultimately meaningless agreements with the indigenous.

"You cannot assert your-

selves by destroying others, because this only leads to more violence and division," he admonished. "Violence begets violence, destruction increases fragmentation and separation. Violence eventually makes a most just cause into a lie."

After the Mass, Francisca Linconao, a Mapuche leader who has been implicated in the burning deaths of a farm couple in 2013, tried to approach Francis as he passed by in his popemobile, but police kept her away. She said she wanted to give him a letter asking him to intervene in the long-standing conflict and proclaiming her innocence.

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)— Gunmen ambushed two Americans and two Canadians traveling through Nigeria's northern Kaduna state, kidnapping them and killing two policemen, a state police spokesman said Wednesday.

The foreigners were heading south from Kafanchan in Kaduna state to the capital, Abuja, on Tuesday night when they were ambushed around Kagarko, Kaduna police spokesman

2 Americans, 2 Canadians kidnapped in central Nigeria

Mukhtar Aliyu said.

Aliyu reported earlier in the day that only two people were kidnapped, one American and one Canadian. He revised the numbers based on updated information.

"The two police escorts attached to them engaged the kidnappers in a fierce gun battle, which resulted in the unfortunate death of the two police officers," he said.

The kidnapped visitors are investors who were setting up solar stations in villages around Kafanchan, according to Aliyu.

Security officers, including an anti-kidnapping unit, have been sent to the area to try to rescue the North Americans and to apprehend their abductors, he said.

Global Affairs Canada spokesman John Babcock said Canadian officials were aware that two citizens were reportedly abducted. The government would not provide details due to privacy issues, he said.

"Consular officials in Nigeria are in contact with local authorities to gather additional information," Babcock said.

The U.S. State Department said before the number of people believed kidnapped was raised that it knew of reports involving an American citizen.

"The safety and protection of U.S. citizens overseas are among our top priorities," a State Department statement said. It said no further details were available.

Kidnappings for ransom are common in Nigeria, especially on the Kaduna to Abuja highway. Two German archaeologists were seized at gunpoint

last year less than 100 kilometers (60 miles) northeast of Abuja and later freed unharmed. Sierra Leone's deputy high commissioner was taken at gunpoint on the highway in 2016 and held for five days before he was let go.

Victims typically are released unharmed after ransom is paid, though security forces have rescued a few high-profile abductees. A number of bandits, including herdsmen, have been arrested.



Assistant Manager (1): Be able to assist the general manager in the supervision of business establishment to ensure the restaurant & stores efficiency & profitable operations; work closely with the personnel in preparation & processing of reservations, greets & answers customers inquiry, patrons complaints & resolve problems. Prepare advertising campaigns of the restaurant & stores to attract customers. Assist in doing daily inventory of foods, merchandise and assets of the business. Duties include but are not limited to delegating authority & assigning responsibilities, reviewing financial transactions & monitoring budget limitations. & be able to present written & oral reports on the company's financial & operational status. Must have Japanese oral skills & knowledge of Japanese food products.

Restaurant Supervisor (2): Must be qualified in restaurant operations, customer service, menu planning, & reservation operations. Must be responsible for the supervision of staff as to dining areas cleanliness in appearance & outside grounds. Ensure any customers issues are addressed immediately and resolved in a manner which exceeds the customer's expectation. Also need to have basic Japanese oral skills. Must have an extensive knowledge of Japanese food products & be able to make orders & preparations.

Accountant (1): Must be efficient in handling financial records, statements, & reports. Have knowledge on all Taxes computation & filing. Must be able to budget & estimate purchasing costs & requisitions of merchandise necessary in

Restaurant Waitress (5): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Cook (6): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

General Maintenance (3): Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing, repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including

Applicants of all positions listed above except Restaurant Waitress (3 months work experience) are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience. Deadline to submit application will be on Monday, January 29, 2018 at

Application by phone call will not be accepted.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Interested applicants must apply in person; applications can be picked up at MISA Building Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950 T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST

Announcement # JVA17-13

DUTIES: The successful candidate will monitor and supervise participants for the CNMI Drug Court. The compliance specialist will work directly with men and women who have substance abuse addictions and will report to Drug Court Manager and Court regarding participant compliance in the program. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Provides assistance to the Drug Court Manager in monitoring participants;
- Performs all assigned duties relating to cases scheduled for court appearance in drug court hearing;
 Gathers and evaluates data pertinent to individual drug court cases from resource areas including, as necessary, participants' home, school, church, social agencies, neighborhood contacts, etc; Contacts public and private community resources to secure services for participants. Maintains a continuing and ongoing
- Contacts public and private community resources to secure services for participants. Manhams a continuing and original relationships with the agencies as necessary;

 Coordinates enforcement of drug court orders including curfews and home detention with CNMI Drug Court Probation
- Officer and Law Enforcement Officers;
- Maintains contact with local law enforcement agencies, Drug Court Judge, Office of the Public Defender, Office of the Attorney General, employers, local social service agencies, schools and others;
 Coordinates investigations in preparation of court-ordered reports staffing and hearings;
- Maintains case records and statistical data for evaluation purposes and for submission to the Drug Court Manager; Attends and participates in Drug Court staffings and hearings;
- Attends public relations activities such as community group meetings, conferences, panel discussions, and other related forums; Follows Court policy for monitoring payments ordered by the Court. The payments to be monitored include, but are I limited to, restitution, fine, child supports, etc.;

 Works closely with Drug Court Caseworkers to support case management, coordination of services and monitoring;
- Conducts gender-specific observed drug testing in accordance with CNMI Drug Court protocols; and Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and have obtained an associate's degree from a recognized college or university in criminal or behavioral science or related field. Have four (4) years experience in the law enforcement or other related experience.

Applicant must have a professional demeanor and be able to exercise good judgment in stressful situations. The ability to maintain client confidentiality at all times is imperative. Report writing skills and case management experience would be preferred. Applicants with criminal records will not be considered. Criminal record check will be conducted. Drug test designated position.

Have a valid driver's license and be proficient with Microsoft Word and Excel; must be knowledgeable about the use of data systems.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

> Human Resources Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice P.O. Box 502165 Saipan, MP 96950 Tel. (670)236-9818 michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This internal job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMLJUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

24 FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Fundraiser saves pony who lost penis to cancer, frostbite

BRIDGTON, Maine (AP)— A Maine animal rescue group says it has raised enough money to save a 15-year-old pony that lost part of its penis due to cancer and frostbite. Bridgtonbased Animal Rescue Unit took over care of the pony that was suffering from cancer and infection. Brogan Horton said temperatures plummeting to 25 below exacerbated the problem, causing part of the animal's flesh to break off during an examination. The animal, named Richard, will be spared from being euthanized thanks to a fundraising campaign that surpassed its goal of raising \$4,000 for care, including reconstruction. Horton said

Customer complain that gas station swapped diesel, gasoline

the pony will be transferred to

an animal hospital on Friday

and the surgery will take place

Monday. She said the goal is

for the pony to live the remain-

der of its life pain-free.

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP)—Some Maine drivers say their vehicles were damaged when they purchased fuel at a gas station where the diesel and gasoline were in the wrong pumps. The Kennebec Journal reports the drivers filled their tanks at a Mobil station in Waterville last week. The owner of the gas station says he has received complaints from six customers who told him the diesel and gasoline had been mixed up. Kevin Strickland says he has paid over \$700 to fix vehicle parts that were damaged as a result of the mishap. Other customers had smaller repair problems. The station owner says Mobil officials are investigating the error to determine what happened. The owner says he is collecting information so Mobil can compensate customers after the problem is figured out.

Meteor credited for bright light, noise rattling Michigan

DETROIT (AP)—Experts say a bright light and what sounded like thunder in the sky above Michigan was a meteor. The American Meteor Society says it received hundreds of reports of a fireball Tuesday night over the state, including many in the Detroit area. Reports also came in from several other states and Ontario, Canada. Some Michigan residents reported their homes shaking. The society says the reports suggest a space rock penetrated deep into the Earth's atmosphere

before it broke apart. The U.S. Geological Service says it registered as a 2.0 magnitude earthquake in Michigan. Bill Cooke with NASA's Meteoroid Environment Office tells The Detroit News it was "definitely a meteoroid" and a rare sight for Michigan. Other states where people reported seeing a fireball included Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Missouri.

2 men hit each other in consecutive accidents in Germany

BERLIN (AP)—Police in the eastern German city of Dresden say two men suffered minor injuries after backing in to one another in two consecutive accidents. Police said Tuesday that a 49-year-old man pulled into a disabled parking place on Monday afternoon, then reversed out after noticing his mistake. As he backed out, he accidentally hit a 72-year-old man walking behind him, injuring him slightly. After the two men exchanged information for a report, the older man got in his car and backed out of his own parking spot, hitting the younger man in the process and slightly injuring him. Police say it was at that point they were called to the scene of the two accidents in the Saxony capital.

Mom-daughter duo show 2 carjackers crime and cocoa don't mix WOODBRIDGE, Va.

(AP)—Police in the Virginia suburbs of the nation's capital say two would-be carjackers fled from their intended victims when a splash of hot cocoa and a dash of resourcefulness entered the mix. Police in Prince William County, Virginia, said in a statement that a 50-year-old woman exited a 7-Eleven convenience store on Saturday night with some purchased items when two men, one with a handgun, approached and demanded her vehicle. Police say the woman struck one man with her bag before her 22-yearold daughter threw her hot chocolate toward both men, who then fled on foot. No one was hurt and no property was taken.

Massachusetts police arrest man for stealing manhole covers

manhole covers
WEBSTER, Mass. (AP)—
Massachusetts police say they have arrested a man who stole seven manhole covers and put traffic cones in their place.
The Telegram & Gazette reports the 46-year-old Webster man was arrested Friday and charged with larceny. Police say they first received a call around 2:45 p.m. last Wednesday from a witness who saw the suspect taking a manhole

cover in Webster. Authorities received several other calls about missing manhole covers, and they say they stopped a vehicle matching the witness description later that day. Police say the suspect acknowledged taking the manhole covers and pointed officers to where he had sold them. Authorities recovered the covers Wednesday from a Millbury salvage yard. Webster sewer superintendent William Burke says they replaced to stolen covers with spares.

Arizona police arrest 80-year-old man in armed bank robbery

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—Police in Arizona have arrested an 80-year-old man they say robbed a credit union at gunpoint. Tucson police said Sunday that a tip led to the arrest of Robert Francis Krebs after authorities circulated surveillance photos of him entering the Pyramid Credit Union and at a teller's window. They say Krebs had a handgun, demanded money from the teller and was given cash before running out of the bank. Police released the photos after Friday's robbery. A local hotel clerk called police Saturday to report a man that looked like the one in the photos had tried to cash a check. Police began checking nearby hotels and located Krebs. He was booked into jail on two counts of armed robbery. It's unclear if he has an attorney.

Wallaby hops across Sydney Harbor Bridge, captured uninjured

SYDNEY (AP)—A wayward wallaby disrupted downtown traffic by bounding across the Sydney Harbor Bridge on Tuesday with police in pursuit. The adult male was captured without any apparent serious injury and is expected to be released back into the wild within days. Swamp wallabies, which are smaller marsupials than their kangaroo cousins, are common across eastern Australia, but are rarely seen in cities. The startled wallaby hopped across the bridge's eight lanes of traffic an hour before sunrise then turned onto an expressway on the harbor's southern shore toward the Sydney Opera House. A pursuing police car with flashing lights videoed the animal's steady bounding before police officers captured him near the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and wrangled him into a horse float, police said. Veterinarian Larry Vogelnest said the wallaby was "quite distressed" but he gave it a tranquilizer before taking it to the wildlife hospital at nearby Taronga Zoo.

Science & Technology

TECH Q & A Chip security fix hurts some PCs

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: On Jan. 8, my 10-yearold, custom-built Windows 7 PC crashed. (I got the "blue screen of death.") My technician wonders whether I'm the victim of Microsoft's software patches for the AMD processor chip security problems, which locked up some computers. (The small Oregon firm that built my PC used a main circuit board from ASUS.)

My technician said the PC's hard drive was damaged, but might still be functional. The repairs sound expensive, and I'd rather not buy a new PC. Can I get Microsoft to pay for this?

A: That's hard to answer. While your hard drive problem is most likely caused by its age, it could be caused by one of the Microsoft' emergency software patches issued in early January.

The Microsoft patches were designed to partly fix major security issues with Intel and AMD processors. An update from PC manufacturers is also required. (For an overview of the security issue, see tinyurl.com/ybhahfhg).

If your PC uses an AMD chip, it may have been affected by a flawed Microsoft-AMD software patch. Microsoft stopped providing the patch after it left some computers unable to boot (see tinyurl. com/ycormeme). Microsoft offers tips on the problem at tinyurl.com/y8935lxp (see "Resolving stop (blue screen) errors in Windows 7.")

So why is the age of your hard drive the more likely explanation? Your PC is 10 years old. If that's the original hard drive, it's already outlived the typical drive life span of three to five years. So, you can only make a claim against Microsoft if your PC has an AMD chip and you can show that the damage was caused by a Microsoft patch.

How much might repairs cost? If the drive is damaged, it will have to be replaced for about \$50, plus the labor to install it. In addition, either you or a technician will have to reload your data and software (including Windows 7) on the new drive.

Then you will have to deal with the processor chip security issue. Because the Microsoft software patches only partly correct the processor chip security issues,

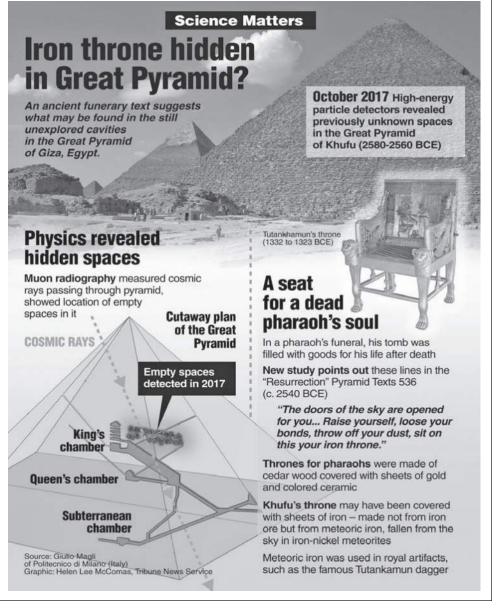
PC owners also need to download some "firmware," or chip-based software, from the PC's manufacturer (see tinyurl.com/yc74phpd.)

Because you don't have a PC manufacturer to turn to, you will have to download the firmware from ASUS, the maker of your PC's main circuit board, also called a "motherboard." But, to do that, you will first need to locate the model number of the circuit board, then find the correct ASUS firmware to download. So far, ASUS offers only Intel firmware (see tinyurl.com/y9sww9cd).

As a result, repair costs may exceed the \$300 minimum cost of a new laptop.

Q: I have some .jpg pictures from the 2000s that I can't open after updating my PC to Windows 10. What can I do?

A: Tell Windows 10 what program should open your photos. Go to the start button and type "default" in the search box. In the resulting list, click "default app settings." From the "default apps" list, choose photos. You'll get a list of apps that can open a photo. Either choose one, or download a different app (see tinyurl. com/y9sah4kf for free ones).



FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 **25** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Life & Style

Comedian Will Ferrell brings laughs to the Australian Open

(AP)—American actor and comedian Will Ferrell isn't just at the Australian Open this week for the tennis. He also came to (jokingly) announce his retirement from acting.

"I have kind of done all the movies I want to do. It's a great way to go out," Ferrell told the media at Melbourne Park on Thursday.

It was just one of several lighthearted moments during an unusual news conference with former No. 1 Jim Courier that felt more like an impromptu comedy club routine.

Among the wackier revelations by the "Anchorman" and "Blades of Glory" star:

■ Roger Federer seemed "a little bit afraid of him" during his surprise on-court interview with the Swiss star following his first-round match at Rod Laver Arena on Tuesday.

■ Taylor Swift is the best

tennis player in Hollywood, followed closely by Rihanna.

■ And wombat doesn't taste like chicken. It's more of a "sinewy, tough meat."

All jokes aside, Ferrell said he's a big tennis fan and was invited by an Australian friend to come watch the tournament for a couple days this year. He's checked out a few matches, including Federer's first-round victory over Aljaz Bedene and Caroline Wozniacki's dramatic

comeback win over Jana Fett after saving two match points at 1-5 in the third set.

"I think it just shows the mental side of the game and how she was able to kind of draw on her experience," Ferrell said. "It's funny how, when a

less-experienced player is up 5-1 in the final set, they're almost, you know, the pressure

Ferrel

is on them to close it out."

Ferrell also revealed that he was considering playing the role of Bobby Riggs in a film about the famous "Battle of the Sexes" tennis

match between Riggs and Billie Jean King in 1973, but that a competing project headlined by Steve Carell had already started filming.

"I would have loved to (have played Riggs)," Ferrell said. "I think he was a fascinating character."

He's also a fan of Australia after his visit, though he has one piece of advice for the country: "I think driving on the wrong side of the road needs to be switched. It's very hard to drive over here, for me. ... That's probably an easy thing to fix, right?"

'Fire and Fury' about Trump's White House sells big 2nd week

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Wolff's "Fire and Fury" sold more than 190,000 hardcover copies last week, the book's first full week of publication, a company which tracks the retail market told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

In less than two weeks since its release, combined e-book, audio and hardcover sales now top 500,000 for Wolff's sensational account of a dysfunctional Trump administration.

NPD BookScan, which compiles about 85 percent of hardcover and paperback sales, told the AP that about 220,000 hardcover copies have sold in all. That number is expected to go much higher. The book caught on with so many people that publisher Henry Holt and Co. has struggled to keep copies available. Amazon.com, where "Fire and Fury" has been No. 1 throughout its publication, is advising customers that shipments may take 2-4 weeks. NPD BookScan does not register a sale until the book has actually been sent.

'The Last Jedi,' 'Three Billboards' among AARP nominees

NEW YORK (AP)—"Star Wars: The Last Jedi" hasn't been mentioned much in this year's awards season, but it's among the nominees for AARP The Magazine's 17th annual Movies for Grownups Awards.

Oscar contenders are also in the mix. Besides "The Last Jedi," nominees for best film include "Get Out," "Lady Bird," "The Shape of Water" and "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri."

Best-actress nominees are Meryl Streep, Annette Bening, Judi Dench, Salma Havek and Frances McDormand; best-actor nominees are Denzel Washington, Steve Carell, Daniel Day-Lewis, Gary Oldman and Tom Hanks.

There will also be trophies for best-supporting actor and actress, director and ensemble cast, and for categories like best "grown-up love story."

Benedict Cumberbatch returning as Sherlock? It's a mystery PASADENA, Calif. (AP)— Benedict Cumberbatch had a ready answer when asked when he might star in another "Sherlock" on PBS. "Goodbye," he said, pleas-

antly, as he darted out of camera range during a satellite O&A Wednesday.

Cumberbatch was speaking to TV critics from London about a very different

drama he stars in and produced, "The Child in Time." The TV movie, based on Ian McEwan's novel about a couple whose child is kidnapped, co-stars Kelly Macdonald and debuts April 1 on public television stations.

Macdonald, who had flown in from her native Glasgow, Scotland, to promote the TV film, said she'd

confessed to Cumberbatch that she was "a huge" fan of his modern-day Sherlock.

She's got her own connection with the fictional British sleuth: Macdonald plays Sherlock's housekeeper, Mrs. Hughes, opposite Will Ferrell's detective and John C. Reilly's Dr. Watson in the big-screen comedy "Holmes and Watson," set for release later this year.

Cumberbatch was asked about how he manages a busy work schedule that includes the upcoming "Avengers: Infinity War" and launching a production company.

"Don't worry, don't worry," he replied. "Worry's like trying to get someone on a rocking horse. It's a bit silly.

Katie Couric returning for Winter Olympics opening ceremony

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC is bringing back Katie Couric to co-host the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics next month in South Korea, and will live-stream the pomp for the first time.

Couric will work with Mike Tirico, who is replacing Bob Costas as prime-time host of the games, for the Feb. 9 ceremony.

The torch-lighting and parade of nations that begins every Olympics took on greater resonance Wednesday with the announcement that the rival Koreas will form their first unified Olympic team and march together in the ceremony.

"It's going to be really emotional for the athletes, for the crowd and for everybody sitting at home," said Jim Bell, executive producer of the Olympics for NBC.

The decision to live-stream the ceremony starting at 6 a.m. ET in the United States takes some critical heat off NBC. Some fans thought it odd that during the 2016 summer games in Brazil, NBC allowed every competition to be shown live online but not the opening ceremony. The live-stream will be available for free to cable subscribers.

The prime-time broadcast NBC will show on television will likely be edited for brevity.

Similarly, NBC will show its nightly Olympic primetime broadcast that begins at 8 p.m. on the East Coast live across the country; given the time difference, there will be a lot of events taking place live during that time, daylight the next day in Korea. That means the West Coast "prime-time" broadcast will begin at 5 p.m.

The moves are a further recognition by NBC of the difficulty in showing tape-delayed events at a time the audience accustomed to seeing things when they want to.

Hoda Kotb would have been a natural pick to host the opening ceremony, but Bell said he didn't want to burden her when she just got the new lead job at "Today." So, instead, he called Couric, the former "Today" host who handled Olympic ceremonies in 2000, 2002, 2004 with Costas.

She joked at a news conference Wednesday that she and Tirico "go way back, to 45 minutes ago.'

Man comes up short learning how to date in high school

up hope of finding a mate and accept that he may end up alone? I'm 29. I never had a chance to date in high school. My family farms, and when I was 14, my grandfather could no longer help my dad. Dad couldn't take care of things alone, so I would go out and help him the minute I got home from school every day. Between the farm work and keeping up with my studies, I had to grow up fast. I graduated with a 3.5 grade point average, but because I had no time for dating, this part of my development has always been off.

EAR ABBY: At what point does a man finally give

I have been set up by family and friends, tried meeting people in groups and on online dating sites. So far, it has been to no avail. My last actual date was two years ago. Friends tell me I'm a good guy, so I can't figure out what has gone wrong.

I never regretted helping my dad when he needed me, but I wish it hadn't come at such a steep social price. Am I doomed to a lonely life because I "did the right thing" when I was in high school?

MIDWEST FARMER

DEAR FARMER: A quick online search would show you there are women who would be very interested in meeting someone like you. Go back online and start researching dating sites for farmers and ranchers. While I can't guarantee you'll meet your match, it would be a good place to start. I wish you the best and hope you will let me know I have guided you in the right direction.

DEAR ABBY: Recently, my friends threw me a party for my 34th birthday. A number of them brought their children (ages 2 to 6 years) to the Saturday afternoon event.

When I began opening my gifts, several of the children started throwing tantrums because they were not being given gifts. I thought this might be a good learning opportunity to gently teach the children that it was not their birthday, but someone else's special day. However, some of the parents began insisting that I let the crying (and by this point, screaming) children open my gifts(!). Instead, I stopped opening gifts, put all the presents up on a shelf and began serving cake and ice cream and handing out balloons and other party favors.

This satisfied some of the children, but others were still screaming. One of the parents then began berating me, saying that I was "the biggest child" for not "sharing." Needless to say, the party ended early and with some hurt feelings. Was I wrong to not allow small children to tear open my fragile and expensive birthday gifts?

IT'S MY SPECIAL DAY

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com



DEAR SPECIAL DAY: You did nothing wrong. The parents of the children who were throwing tantrums were wrong. They should have removed their offspring until they regained control of themselves rather than demand you allow their little angels to tear apart your packages. Your mistake was in not having an adults-only party, but after this experience, I'm sure it's one you won't be making again any time soon. Those parents owe you an apology.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable-and most frequently requested-poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby-Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

26 FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis















Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



Cyprus

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King. Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shawn Johnson, 26; Drea de Matteo, 46; Katey Sagal, 64; Dolly Parton, 72.

Happy Birthday: The best way to move forward is without anger. Temptation and excessive behavior will not help you get ahead or reach your goals. Getting along and fitting in will be your ticket to finding your way to a better lifestyle. Refuse to get caught up in someone else's dreams when you should be striving to reach your own. Your numbers are 1, 7, 15, 27, 30, 34, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep your plans simple and within your financial means. You'll be tempted to indulge, but nothing good is likely to transpire if you do. Helping others can be rewarding. Offer suggestions and hands-on help, but nothing more. Romance is highlighted. OOOO

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll face uncertainty when dealing with relationships. Say little, but observe all detail that develops. Knowing what you are up against will help you make wise choices. Intelligence coupled

with stamina will help you come out on top. 😂 GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take on a new position or check out the online job market. An interest you have can be turned into a profit if you apply your skills to something you enjoy. Keep moving until your responsibilities are complete.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Short trips, business meetings and discussing future plans will spark new ideas and bring you closer to those you want to work alongside. Improving your current lifestyle, beliefs or direction will lead to fond memories.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Money matters will escalate, and interesting offers will entice vou. Contracts and negotiations must be handled shrewdly if you want to come out on top. You'll be inclined to overlook an important detail. Don't celebrate until you have a signed agreement.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll be inclined to take on too much. Persuasive individuals may try to take advantage of you and your skills. Don't offer anything that will

jeopardize your chances to promote what you want to achieve. An intelligent approach to handling others is encouraged.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't be fooled by what's happened in the past. Someone will lead you astray if given the chance. Focus on the present and how best to deal with your personal life and the changes you want to bring about. 🛇 🔾 🔾

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Domestic issues will surface if you let your emotions run wild, leading to false assumptions and overreacting. Take a moment to collect your thoughts and to consider what role you have played in making matters better or worse. **QQ**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Face existing problems head-on. Take a closer look at what's happening and you will find a way to make positive adjustments that are within your budget. Don't trust anyone who tries to persuade you to spend more then necessary.

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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at every angle and consider the best way

WONDERWORD

MULTIGENERATIONAL HOUSEHOLDS

to get the most for the least. Excess will cause problems that could deter you from reaching your goals. Go big, not small, when forced to make a decision. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Knowing what you want to do and being able

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look

to pull it off will be difficult if you don't follow the rules. Instead, be sure to take the time to give the attention required to do things right the first time. **QQQ** PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let

the changes going on around you throw you off guard. Stick to your plans and let vour intuition help vou make the best decisions. Stability will lead to greater recognition and respect. A personal change should be made secretively. OOO

Birthday Baby: You are expressive, influential and proactive. You are unpredictable and playful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each latter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SSCFATHERSELCNU

TPHSISTERSCHOOL

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A E M T ① N N N G S H R R

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OUELLET

Solution: 11 letter

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

7	4	9	5	1	3	6	8	2
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Aging Aunt, Babies, Bathrooms, Brother, Child Care, Chores, Connection, Dine, Family, Father, Health, Hobby, Home, House, Income, Kids, Laundry, Limited, Manners, Meal, Mother, Parents, Plan, Relationships, Rental, Retirees, Roof, Save, School, Seniors, Sharing, Siblings, Sister, Specialties, Stigma, Stressors, Students, Uncles, Work Yesterday's Answer: Sturgeon

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Attorney for Petitioner.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

) Civil Action No. 18-0013 In Re The AMENDED Estate of NOTICE OF HEARING/ NOTICE TO CREDITORS EARL ROLAND BROWN; Date: February 8. 2018 Time: 9:00 a.m. Deceased. Judge: Hon. Joseph N. Camacho **NOTICE**

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC AND CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT OR OF HIS ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, MariLou Conner, has filed a Petition For Letters of Administration in the above-entitled Estate proceeding pursuant to NMI R. Prob. P 15.

A hearing on the petition will be conducted by the Court on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., in Courtroom 220, Superior Court. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.

Pursuant to NMI R. Prob. P 21, notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Decedent or his Estate that they must file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice. A copy of the claim of any creditor should be sent to Attorney Mark A. Scoggins at the above indicated address

Reference is hereby made to the petition for further particulars

SO NOTICED this 12th day of January 2018.

/s/ MARK A. SCOGGINS (F0347)

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MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122 THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

FOURTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a

Judgement issued by the Court in this matter on

March 28, 2017, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest

of Defendant Luis A. Sasamoto in and to the

following property: Lot no. 060 T 01, situated in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an

area of 10,000 square meters, more or less, as

Official Cadastral Plat no. 060 T 00 dated October 12. 1990. Commonwealth Recorder's File no.

91-083,dated January 3, 1991, the description

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held

on Friday, February 2, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC,

Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public

<u>Terms and Conditions of Sale.</u> The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the

undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of

MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

DATED, this 28th day of December, 2017:

therein being incorporated herein by reference.

CIVIL ACTION

NO. 01-0044

SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

POST OFFICE BOX 5222

Tel.: (670) 234-6547

Fax: (670234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

BANK OF SAIPAN

LUIS A. SASAMOTO

Plaintiff



"I want to be a firefighter!" BJ Belacora, 6 yrs.

Saipan Tribune

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPOI P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

Positions: (5) ARFF Trainee (Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport is no later than 5:00 pm on January 19, 2018.

lorna.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp or evelyn.sablan@cpa.gov.mp by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO Executive Director

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 07-2017

Opening date: January 3, 2018

Closing date: January 19, 2018

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at

employment in the CNMI.

MICRONESIA CNMI

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

WAREHOUSE ADMINISTRATIVE/CLERK

Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc.-CNMI is looking for an Administrator for our Warehouse and Construction support to join our ever growing team of professionals.

Office Support:

- Maintain filing system (Warehouse and Job site requirements and distribution of essential equipment and tools to our technicians).
- Maintain Warehouse and office supplies/equipment, ordering and scheduling maintenance as necessary.
- Assist Staff in various administration responsibilities, including archiving of files.
- Become familiar with and utilize Field and Job Cost Procedures support the sales director in various administration support activities

Accounting Administration:

- Assist Operations Director with accounting of projects, material and high/low
- Process Warehouse Inventory Spreadsheets.

Reporting

- Produce warehouse summary reports
- Provide daily Reports to the Operations Director.
- Track and maintain inventory

Qualifications:

- Preferably US Citizen or Green Card Holder
- Must have 4+ years clerical/administrative experience preferably in the construction industry.
- Must have excellent computer skills and be able to demonstrate proficiency with MS Office products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.)
- Must be able to work in a fast-paced warehouse/office environment, able to multi task, meet critical deadlines with eye for accuracy and attention to details
- Ability to work with all levels of project staff and organization

Applications can be picked up at MRE Office (Across Highway Express/Shell Gualo Rai) or call Del Renojo @ (670) 233-4673 for more info. Send your completed employment application and/or resume to ivoacolo@micronesiarenewableenergy.com

ACHUGAO SERVICES, LLC

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT (01) RECEPTIONIST INTERN (Full-time)

Job Purpose:

Serves visitors by greeting, welcoming, and directing them appropriately; notifies company personnel of visitor arrival; maintains security and telecommunications system.

Duties:

- Welcomes visitors by greeting them, in person or on the telephone; answering or referring inquiries.
- Directs visitors by maintaining employee and department directories; aivina instructions. Maintains security by following procedures and monitoring logbook.
- Maintains telecommunication system by following manufacturer's instructions for house phone and console operation.
- Maintains safe and clean reception area by complying with procedures, rules, and regulations.
- among work teams by documenting and continuity communicating actions, irregularities, and continuing needs.
- Performs clerical duties.
- Types memos and envelones.
- Prepare documents and packages for mail or shipping.
- Scan, rename, and file documents on server
- Contributes to team effort by accomplishing related results as needed.

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Sharapova vs Kerber in 3rd round; Muguruza out



MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)— Wimbledon champion Garbine Mu-

guruza struggled with the heat in an upset second-round loss to Hsieh Su-wei that left just three major winners in the Australian Open women's draw on Day 4.

Two of them will meet in the third round.

With a forecast high of 39 Celsius (102 Fahrenheit), 2008 Australian Open winner Maria Sharapova hurried through the first set on Rod Laver Arena in 23 minutes before beating No. 14-seeded Anastasija Sevastova 6-1, 7-6 (4).

Temperatures hovered close to 40 Celsius (104 F) as 2016 champion Angelique Kerber set up a meeting with Sharapova with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Donna Vekic in a 70-minute afternoon match at Margaret Court Arena.

The crowd sang Happy Birthday and gave three hoorays to celebrate Kerber's 30th birthday. It was her 11th win, including the Sydney International title last week.

"Happy to be playing tennis again like 2016," said Kerber, who planned an ice bath before a relaxed dinner out in Melbourne to mark the occasion.

Sharapova, who missed last year's Australian Open while serving a 15-month ban for a failed doping test on her previous trip to Melbourne Park, was happy to beat the player who'd ended her run at the U.S. Open last year—her first major since the suspension.

"It's a warm day. I did my job in two sets against someone that's been troubling in the past for me," Sharapova said. "I think I deserve to smile out there after that victory."

Muguruza had little to celebrate after her 7-6 (1), 6-4 loss to No. 88-ranked Hsieh,



who has been No. 1 in doubles but had only previously beaten one top 10 player in singles.

Muguruza followed Venus Williams and U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens out of the tournament in the first week, leaving only Sharapova, Kerber and French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko as Grand Slam winners in the draw.

"She's definitely a very tricky opponent—she played well," said Muguruza, acknowledging that the heat was bothersome but it wasn't the hottest conditions she'd experienced in Australia. "I could have done things better, but at

the end, she deserves to win."

Considered one of the con-

tenders for the title after Serena Williams opted against defending her Australian title, Muguruza had a troubled preparation. She retired with cramps in the second round at the Brisbane International and withdrew before her quarterfinal at Sydney because of a right thigh injury.

Against Hsieh, she struggled with her serve, made 43 unforced errors. She needed a medical time out in the first set, and accidently hit a ball into a line judge in frustration.

Ninth-seeded Johanna Konta, the 2016 Australian Open

semifinalist, fended off three match points before losing to U.S. lucky loser Bernarda Pera 6-4, 7-5.

No. 123-ranked Pera is making her Grand Slam debut and, after losing in the last round of qualifying, didn't even know she had a spot in the main draw until Margarita Gasparyan withdrew with an injury.

"It feels amazing. I was ready to leave on Monday and then they told me I'm in, so I was obviously excited," Pera said. "I was checking the tickets to fly back. I'm happy I didn't buy one."

Pera will next play No. 20 Barbora Strycova, who beat Lara Arruabarrena 6-3, 6-4. Also advancing were No.

Agnieszka Radwanska, who next plays Hsieh. Lauren Davis beat Andrea Petkovic 4-6, 6-0, 6-0 and has a potential third-round match against top-ranked Simona

8 Caroline Garcia and No. 26

enie Bouchard later Thursday. Former No. 1-ranked Karolina Pliskova advanced to a third-round match against No. 29 Lucie Safarova.

Halep, who was playing Eug-

Sam Querrey was the latest of the leading U.S. men eliminated when he lost his second-round match 6-4, 7-6 (6), 4-6, 6-2 to 80th-ranked Marton

Fucsovics. No. 8 Jack Sock and No. 16 John Isner went out in the first round.

The 13th-seeded Querrey was one of 10 American players - men and women - to reach the second round from the 32 who started the main draws.

No. 5 Dominic Thiem rallied from two sets down to defeat 190th-ranked American qualifier Denis Kudla 6-7 (6), 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-3. No. 21 Albert Ramos beat another American, wild-card entry Tim Smyczek 6-4, 6-2, 7-6 (2).

No. 19 Tomas Berdych beat Guillermo Garcia-Lopez in four sets.



F O X B O R -OUGH, Mass. (AP)—The Patriots say quarterback Tom Brady

did not attend a scheduled AFC championship news conference Wednesday because he was meeting with the team medical staff for a right hand injury.

According to New England's first injury report of the week, Brady was a limited participant in the practice held earlier in the day.

It was the Patriots' first practice in preparation for Sunday's conference title game against Jacksonville. Defensive lineman Alan Branch and running backs Mike Gillislee and Rex Burkhead also were limited by knee injuries.

Brady appeared on the Patriots' weekly injury report several times during the latter

Brady misses press con with right hand injured

half of the regular season with both an Achilles tendon and left shoulder injury.

The 40-year-old has never missed a playoff start during his 18-year career.

Meanwhile, not being in the limelight has never bothered Kyle Van Noy.

He didn't start a NFL game until his third season when he was with the Detroit Lions, and even then was thought of as a role player.

So now being considered one of the leaders on a Patriots defense that is on the cusp of making a return trip to the Super Bowl seems somewhat out of place for the fourth-year linebacker as he heads into Sunday's AFC championship game against the Jaguars.

"I've been in so many situations since I've been here," Van Noy said of the increased role he's had in New England.

"I mean going deep in the playoffs last year and then playing all of the games this year. ... Each and every game there's different situations, different scenarios that come up. So I would say that my awareness has gone up a lot since I've been here."

The same could be said about his value.

When linebacker Dont'a Hightower went down with a season-ending torn pectoral muscle in the Patriots' win over the Falcons in Week 7, it left a void in the side of a defense that entered 2017 young and inexperienced up front.

New England had already given up 30 or more points three times to that point and was ranked 23rd in the NFL in scoring defense, allowing 23.7 points per game.

Van Noy began the season starting at outside linebacker alongside Elandon Roberts in the middle and Hightower at the other outside spot.

But when Hightower went down, the coaching staff asked Van Noy to handle multiple roles, playing both on the edge and middle of the field at times.

Safety and defensive captain Devin McCourty said that the 26-year-old showed glimpses of that versatility even last season.

It's why it wasn't strange for him to see Van Noy tackle the

responsibility of receiving the defensive play call from the sideline, another role that he's inherited with Hightower out.

He flourished in them all, and over the final nine weeks of the season New England got stingier on defense.

By the end of the season it was allowing just 18.5 points per game -- the fifth-best mark in the league.

Van Noy missed three of the final four games with a calf injury, but still finished the regular season third on the team with 73 tackles and second with 5+ sacks. Van Noy's sack total was just a half-sack short of Hightower's career-high of six in 2014.

"It helps our defense out a lot, and he's one of a lot of guys

on our defense that have been able to play different positions that allow us to do different things defensively," McCourty said. "He's been a leader, he's run the huddle kind of since he's been in there."

Coach Bill Belichick said continuity and execution has improved all over the defense, with lots of contributions from Van Noy and others such as Trey Flowers, Marquis Flowers, Adam Butler, Deatrich Wise Jr. and Ricky Jean Francois.

"Some of the guys that are playing now weren't playing. If we had had this conversation in the middle of the season, you wouldn't be asking about them," Belichick said.

"They've stepped into different roles and they've worked together more, gotten a better feel for each other, execution's better, so it's good."

Warriors beat Bulls for 14th straight road win

CHICAGO (AP)— Thompson Klay scored 38 points, Stephen Curry added 30 and the Golden State Warriors beat the Chicago Bulls 119-112 on Wednesday night for their franchise record-tying 14th straight road win.

Kevin Durant had 19 points as Golden State moved into a tie for the third-longest road winning streak in a season in NBA history. The Los Angeles Lakers hold the record with 16 straight road wins during the 1971-72 season.

Next up for the NBA-leading Warriors is a trip to Houston for a showdown with the Rockets on Saturday night.

Nikola Mirotic scored 24 points for Chicago, which dropped to 14-8 since its 3-20 start. Robin Lopez scored 12 of his 16 points in the first half, and Kris Dunn also had 16.

The Warriors played without Draymond Green and Andre Iguodala due to injuries, and Jordan Bell sprained his left ankle when he challenged Lopez's dunk on the Bulls' first possession.

Thunder 114, Lakers 90

In Oklahoma City, Carmelo Anthony scored 27 points to help Oklahoma City beat Los Angeles, which was still without Lonzo Ball.

Steven Adams had 21 points and 10 rebounds and Russell Westbrook added 19 points and seven assists for the Thunder, who won their third straight. The Thunder shot 48 percent overall and outrebounded the Lakers 54-30.

Ball sat out his second straight game with a sore left knee, and LA dropped to 0-8 without its rookie point guard. The injury news got worse for the Lakers. Rookie forward Kyle Kuzma left with a finger joint sprain, and forward Kentavious Caldwell-Pope left with a right Achilles tendon strain. Neither returned.

Hawks 94, Pelicans 93

In Atlanta, Kent Bazemore hit a jumper with 2.1 seconds remaining and Atlanta rallied from 19 points down to beat New Orleans.

With the score tied at 92, DeMarcus Cousins drew a blocking foul on John Collins with 13.7 seconds remaining, earning a trip to the foul line. Cousins made only one, giving the Hawks a chance to pull out the victory.

Bazemore knocked down the winning shot with Anthony Davis in his face.

Spurs 100, Nets 95

In New York, LaMarcus Aldridge scored 34 points, Patty Mills made seven 3-pointers and San Antonio responded to the latest absence of Kawhi Leonard by beating Brooklyn.

Mills finished with 25 points and combined with Aldridge on the most important play of the game, a three-point play for Aldridge with 53 seconds remaining on a pass from the reserve guard after the Nets had cut a 17-point deficit to three.

Hornets 133. Wizards 109

In Charlotte, Michael Kidd-Gilchrist scored 21 points, Dwight Howard had another double-double and Charlotte used a record-setting first half to beat Washington in coach Steve Clifford's return.

The Hornets made 12 of their first 13 shots and scored a franchise-record 77 points in the first half to build a 16-point



Golden State Warriors' Klay Thompson (11) shoots between Chicago Bulls' Kris Dunn (32) and Justin Holiday, right, during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018, in Chicago. The Warriors won, 119-112.

in the second half in a game that was never close.

Kemba Walker had 19 points, Howard had 18 points and 15 rebounds and Jeremy

lead. They extended that to 28 Lamb had 16 points for the Hornets.

Grizzlies 105, Knicks 99

In Memphis, Tyreke Evans had 23 points, including three free throws in the closing seconds, along with 10 assists to lift Memphis over New York.

JaMychal Green added 18 points and 13 rebounds, while Dillon Brooks and Jarell Martin added 17 points each to help Memphis win its second straight.

Raptors 96, Pistons 91

In Toronto, Jonas Valanciunas had 17 points and 16 rebounds, C.J. Miles scored 21 points and Toronto beat Detroit.

Kyle Lowry scored 18 points and DeMar DeRozan had 17 to help the Raptors avoid their first three-game skid of the season.

Andre Drummond had 25 points and 17 rebounds but the Pistons lost for the seventh time in eight road games.

Heat 106, Bucks 101

In Milwaukee, Hassan Whiteside had a season-high 27 points with 13 rebounds and six blocks to lead Miami over Milwaukee.

Goran Dragic and Kelly Olynyk added 15 points apiece to help Miami rebound from a loss at Chicago that snapped the Heat's season-high sevengame winning streak.

Khris Middleton had 25 points to lead Milwaukee, which lost to Miami for the second time in four days.

Zidane: Real without Ronaldo unimaginable

MADRID (AP)—Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane on Wednesday dismissed media speculation linking superstar Cristiano Ronaldo with a move away from the Bernabeu.

"I can't imagine a Madrid without Cristiano," said the Frenchman, a World Cup winner as a player.

"He's in his club. Everyone, the club, the fans, want him.

"We know what can be said outside but within, what Cristiano must do is just think about playing as he has been doing, and that's what I want, to talk only about his attitude and what he can bring us."

With the January transfer window open, speculation has been rife over a possible exit for Ronaldo from the Spanish capital, with former club Manchester United a rumoured eventual destination.

Some have been trying to read an intent to leave into his attitude but Zidane insists Ronaldo has only one focus. "I speak with Cristiano

about the pitch and when he comes here he only talks about the pitch and that's best for everyone," added the coach

who has led Real to back-toback Champions League victories as well as last season's La Liga title.

Real, though, have struggled this season and are down in fourth in La Liga following Saturday's shock 1-0 defeat at home to Villarreal.

That left them a mammoth 19 points behind eternal rivals Barcelona. They have a Spanish Cup clash against Leganes on Thursday and having finished second in their Champions League group to Tottenham and with a last 16 clash against Paris Saint-Germain to come, the domestic cup looks their likeliest route to silverware this season.

"It's not a final but we know that every match we have now is hugely important," added Zidane.



Tsunami Saipan Mid Season Meet tomorrow

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan will have its second tournament for the 2017-2018 season this Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Dubbed as Tsunami Mid Season Meet, the competition will have 15 events and will start at 8am.

Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said his club will be fielding 34 swimmers in the weekend meet, while Saipan Swim Club will be represented by 27 swimmers. Dolphin Club Saipan will also compete in the meet and will have 19 entries.

The tournament will start with the 800m freestyle event



Rogolifoi to hold BCO certification course on Tinian

By JON PEREZ

Saipan Baseball League coordinator Tony Rogolifoi will resume his series of Baseball Confederation of Oceania coaches and umpires certification courses, as he heads to Tinian later this month to conduct a weeklong seminar.

The BCO certification course on Tinian will run from Jan. 29 to Feb. 2 with the final stage (written exam) expected to be held on Saipan. This will be Rogolifoi's second stop after holding a separate program in Rota in October last year in cooperation with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. The eight-member group from Rota concluded the program with the written and practical tests on Saipan last month

The program is in line with the opening of the Little League season. Saipan will also have a separate certification course after the Tinian leg with Rogolifoi hoping to have additional coaches and umpires who will help facilitate the CNMI's baseball program.

"I'm asking those who will take part in the course on Tinian to be prepared. They called me yesterday to inform me that there would be 10 to 12 who will be taking the courses. Originally, there were only six," said Rogolifoi.

"Ten to 12 is a good number. It shows that there's interest in improving the quality of baseball games. I told them that I'll be on Tinian as soon as all the SBL finals games are over. I also need to be back before the opening of the new SBL season," he added.

GSM defeated the Boleros, 22-16, last Monday night to win the Masters division title, while the championship game between the Cubs and the Falcons is set at 6:30pm tonight. The Blue Jays-Pirates' battle for third place was played last night and results of the match were unavailable at press time.

"Everyone needs to be ready. I'm preparing all the materials needed. They will be BCO-certified coaches and umpires after they completed the course," said Rogolifoi.

Oscar Hocog Ouitugua II, Ray Anthony T. Cabrera, Danny King, Jonovan Lizama, Daniel Rangamar Jr., Antonelli Rosario, Ryan Taisacan, and Albert H. Toves are Rota's new BCO-certified coaches and umpires after they completed the course last month. They earned their certificates after learning the theoretical side and actual officiating of games conducted by Rogolifoi, who is a BCO-certified instructor and umpire. James Miwata, Roy Celis, Tony Satur, and Highness Asanuma are also BCO-certified umpires.

For more information on the BCO certification courses, call Rogolifoi at 234-6672.

A swimmer competes in the 100m breaststroke event during the NMISF Opening Meet held in October last year at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. Saipan swimmers will return to the Marpi pool this weekend to participate in the Tsunami Saipan Mid Season Meet.

and only swimmers that meet the Guam age group swimming time standard (B) are allowed to race in the first event. For swimmers in the 19 and over age group, they should meet the standard in the 17 to 18 division to be able to compete in the 16-lap event.

Also scheduled in the first set of events are the 100m butterfly, 200m breaststroke,

7Tsunami

100m backstroke, freestyle, 50m freestyle, and 50m backstroke. The second set of races will feature the 400m freestyle, 100m breaststroke, 100m freestyle, 200m backstroke, 200m individual medley, 50m butterfly, and 50m breaststroke.

The tournament will then take a 10-minute break before resuming action at the pool and having its last two events—the 200m medley relay and 200m freestyle relay.

Times in tomorrow's meet will be considered for CNMI national and age group records.

MIBF

From Page 32

tional skills camp conducted by their federation every year.

The national federation then can send one team in each gender to attend two international skills camps organized by FIBA. FIBA-designated experts will also hold sessions for coaches. The national federation will be funding the activities and FIBA is advising its members to seek financial help from their respective national Olympic committee, the government, and private businesses.

Through the implementation of the FIBA 3x3 program, MIBF would like to improve the skill level of all players and

200

From Page 32

the competitiveness of the islands' national teams.

Popularity of FIBA's 3x3 basketball has rapidly grown since the federation began the program, especially after the event kicked off at the inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore in 2010 with Serbia winning the gold after a 22-9 demolition of Croatia. Lithuania then ruled the competition in the 2014 Youth Olympics in Nanjing, China, following a close 18-16 decision over France in the finals. This year, the event will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from Oct. 6 to 18.

Meanwhile, the men's and women's 3x3 basketball will be making its debut in the 2020 Olympic Games set from July 24 to Aug. 9 in Tokyo, Japan.

Cubs, Duensing agree to \$7M, 2-year deal



CHICAGO (AP)—The Chicago Cubs

bolstered their revamped bullpen on Wednesday, bringing back Brian Duensing with a \$7 million, two-year contract. Duensing returns to Chi-

deal with the Cubs last winter. The left-hander went 1-1 with a 2.74 ERA in 68 appearances last season.

A person with direct knowledge of the situation confirmed the contract to The Associated

cago after signing a one-year Press on Wednesday on condition of anonymity because it is pending a physical.

Duensing helped Chicago win the NL Central last season, but its bullpen faltered in the playoffs and it was eliminated by the Los Angeles

while Guine Borja knocked

in back-to-back baskets to end

the period with Fiesta Resort

(6-2) eliminated IT&E (2-6)

and gave idle CTSI (4-4) and

Marianas Variety (4-4) early

entry to the semifinals with all

teams still having two games

With the win, Fiesta Resort

behind by only one.

Dodgers in the NL Championship Series. All-Star closer Wade Davis then left in free agency, agreeing to a \$52 million, three-year contract with Colorado, but the Cubs signed relievers Brandon Morrow and Steve Cishek before coming to an agreement with Duensing.

— E. Santos 22, Fernandez 12, Deleon Guerrero 8, An. Santos 6, C. Camacho 6, D. Camacho 4, Al. Santos 4, S. Camacho 4, Kenty 2, Ranga-

Shirley's Coffee Shop 13 Francisco 8, Castillo 3, Santos 2.

Scoring by halves: 34-5, 78-13.

Fourth Game

M&M Salas Ol'Aces 75 -Blake 16, Siech 11, Kabiriel 10, Santos 10, Bondoc 8, Sacdalan 6, Abejo 5, Peter 4, Atan 2.

Saipan Vegas Extreme 38 - Atan 8, Laniyo 7, Okaruru 5, Johnny 4, Menchor 4, King 3. Mizutani 2. Tisa 2.

Scoring by halves: 45-16,

Micronesian Regional Championships from Micronesian

Athletics Championships and made it one of the three regional competitions that takes place once in every two years (even years), in between the higher level Oceania Area Championships (odd years).

Melanesia and Polynesia will have their own regional championships this year with the former scheduled from May 17 to 19 at the Korman Stadium in Vanuatu and the latter set from Sept. 6 to 8 in Apia, Samoa.

championships] take us to the next level in the June 2019 Oceania Area Championships. In essence, OAA hosts events practically every year with the regionals in even years and OAC in odd years," said Tebuteb.

"Now, we have already established our LOC for the regional championships and we've been meeting every month since last year. We are also anticipating approximately 200 athletes and management teams, excluding other off-island officials and media,"

Tebuteb said.

NMA secretary general Robin Sapong added that they also hold special meetings to address other important matters related to Saipan's hosting of this year's competition.

"The LOC regularly meets to update on committee reports and consider our target goals in ensuring we have a smooth event. "We also hold special meetings to address other urgent matters. Our main focus now is the athletes' welfare-to secure accommodation, catering services for the meals, and volunteers, and the venue site," Sapong added.

The LOC last met on Jan. "These three events [regional 13 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa. Tebuteb is the LOC chair with Sapong as vice chair, Lynn Duenas as secretary, and the Northern Marianas Athletics board of directors as members.

> Duenas also heads the finance, accommodations, and food committees, while Sapong is the competition and post events lead person. Gordon Marciano is in charge of transportation and entertainment, while Lawrence Camacho heads the venue committee. and Corine Santos leads the volunteers group.

SWEEP

From Page 32

in the first quarter, while Siech and Kabiriel recorded 9 and 8 markers, respectively

Despite the big lead, M&M Salas Ol'Aces showed no mercy to Saipan Vegas Extreme in the second half, as other players of the eventual winning team also hit their target in that period to complete their lopsided victory.

Meanwhile, in the women's division game, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and GSM Lady Ol'Aces posted contrasting wins.

Fiesta Resort prevailed against IT&E by 6 points, 37-21, while GSM blew out Shirley's Coffee Shop, 78-13.

GSM now has an 8-0 record, moving two victories away from sweeping the two-round robin eliminations, while Shirley's is still winless after eight matches.

Eleina Santos nearly doubled Shirley's total output after registering a game-high 22 points to extend GSM's winning run to eight. Alliyah Fernandez was the other GSM player to score in twin digits with her 12.

In the other women's division game, Fiesta Resort played better in the second half to beat IT&E, which led by a hair at the break, 16-15.

Irish Pagarao showed up in the second half for Fiesta Resort and lifted their team to the win after logging 12 points. Earlier in the first half, Krizel Tuazon held the forth in absence of Pagarao, as the former scored 9 straight points,

each left in their schedule.

Second Game Fiesta Resort 37 — Pagarao 12, Tuazon 9, Borja 6, Joyce 4, Costales 2, Millare 2.

IT&E 31 — Lumabi 13, Garon 8, Marasigan 5, Ocampo 3, Pena 2.

Scoring by halves: 15-16,

Third Game

GSM Lady Ol'Aces 78

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018 **31** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Saipan Baseball League Masters Division

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



GSM players celebrate at home plate after beating the pennant champions Boleros in the Saipan Baseball League Masters division finals, 22-16, last Monday night at the Francisco M. Palacios Ballfield.



The GSM Masters gather for a photo after receiving their championship trophy.



Bernard Cabrera.



The IPI Masters gesture after beating the Papa Bears in the battle for third place.



Two GSM players douse manager Shine Tenorio, partly hidden, with water after winning their second straight Masters title.





The Boleros' Derron Flores, right, gets the Manager of the Year award for guiding his team to a 12-game sweep. SBL board member Ben Jones, left, handed Flores the award.



The GSM Masters' Ed Diaz walks back to home plate after hitting a foul ball during their semis game against the IPI Masters.



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Sharapova vs Kerber in 3rd round; Muguruza out

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Warriors beat Bulls for 14th straight road win

PAGE 29



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Sweep for M&M Salas Ol'Aces



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

&M Salas Ol'Aces earned a clean slate in the elimination round of the 2017 TanHoldings Christmas Basketball Tournament following a 75-38 demolition of Saipan Vegas Extreme last Wednesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

half as the former jumped the

M&M Salas Ol'Aces finished the round-robin elims with a 7-0 record to clinch the No. 1 seeding in the four team playoffs

record to clinch the No. 1 seeding in the four-team playoffs, while Saipan Vegas Extreme bowed out of the competition winless in seven matches.

Four M&M Salas Ol'Aces players scored in double figures to hand their team another easy victory. Center Dean Blake had a game-high 16 points, while point guard N-Nes Siech chipped in 11, and Coby Santos and Kevin Kabiriel contributed 10 apiece.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An M&M Salas Ol'Aces player, center, drives against two Kanoa Resort defenders during an earlier game in the 2017 TanHoldings Christmas Basketball Tournament. The Ol'Aces finished the regular season undefeated following a 75-38 rout of Saipan Vegas Extreme last Wednesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

The M&M Salas Ol'AcesSaipan Vegas Extreme was a
no contest right after the first
few minutes of the opening

gun en route to a commanding 45-16 halftime edge. Blake dropped 10 of his total points

See SWEEP on Page 30



ROSELYN B. MONRO

Fab IV's Eleina Santos, center, challenges the defense of two CTSI players during their title game in the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation-hosted 3x3 tournament at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in October last year.

200 to attend Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships

By JON PEREZ jon_perez@saipantribune.com



Around 200 athletes and team officials are expected to join the Oceania Microne-

sian Regional Championships, which Saipan will be hosting from June 14 to 16 at the Oleai Sports Complex.

Northern Marianas Athletics president Ramon A. Tebuteb gave the estimated number of participants in the biennial tournament and added that NMA had already established a local organizing committee since last year to make sure that Saipan's hosting of the event will run smoothly. The NMA official also said that Oceania Athletics Association renamed the event to Oceania

See 200 on Page 30



FSM OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Runners compete in the 800m run during the 2016 Micronesian Athletics Championships held in Pohnpei. Saipan will host this year's biennial event, which has been renamed to Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships.

MIBF aims to follow FIBA 3x3 program

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Mariana Islands
Basketball Federation eyes to implement the
3x3 program launched by
the International Basketball
Federation last year.

The FIBA 3x3 Fast Track development program was introduced last year in order to address the growing demand of participation and progress of the sport in all FIBA-member national federations.

Under the program, FIBA would offer support in developing a long-term plan

The long-term plan is to identify young talents and mentor them through skills camps.

FIBA will also provide coaching to players in the 16 to 23 age group to raise the competitiveness of 3x3 national teams.

MIBF, just like other national federations, will have to identify and select a pool of 16 U18 players in the boys and girls divisions at the beginning of each year. The 32 that will be chosen will take part in four na-

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